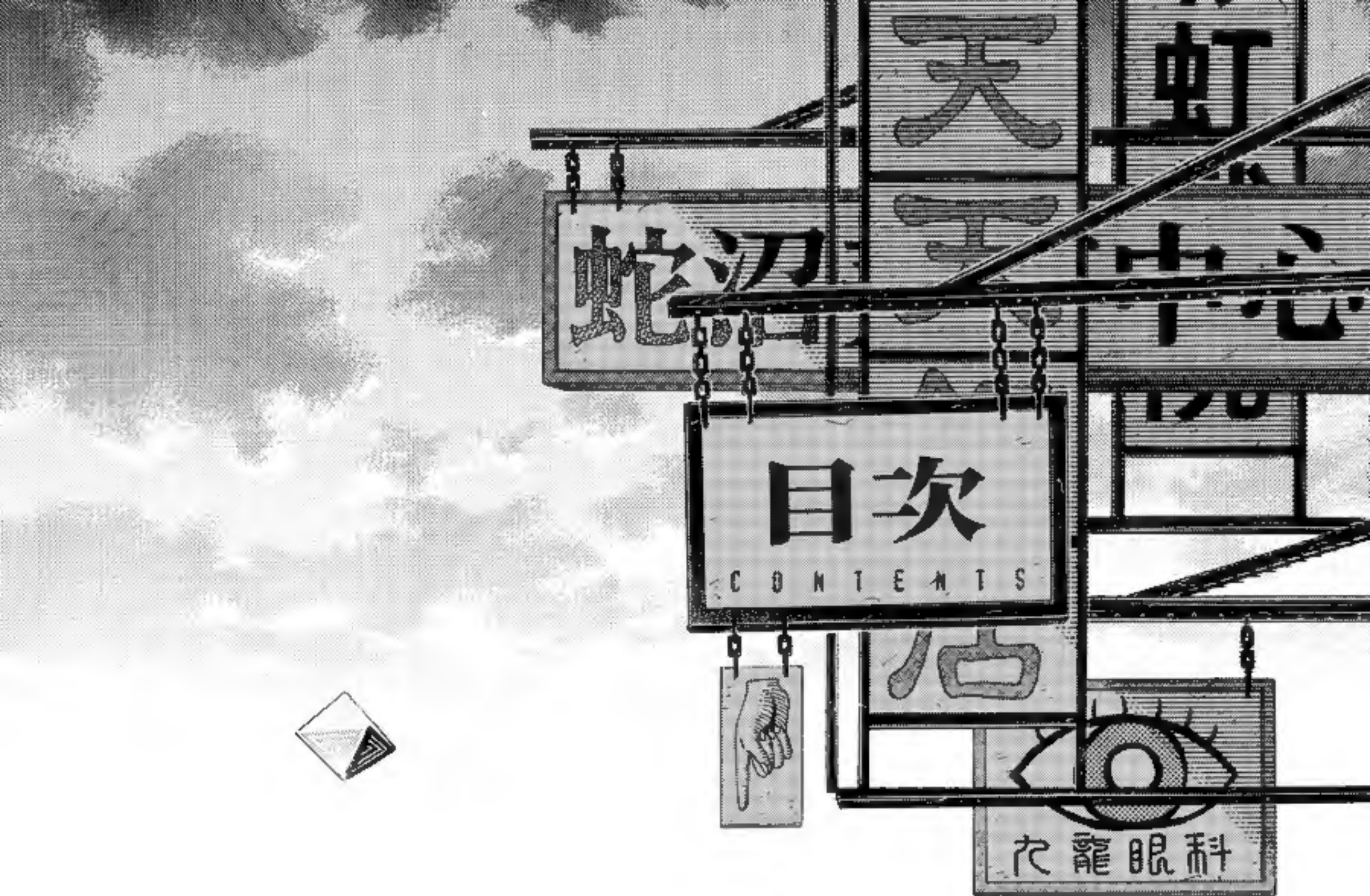




3
JUN
MAYUZUKI

PARENTAL ADVISORY
WARNING
EXPLICIT CONTENT





| | |
|------------|-----|
| Chapter 18 | 3 |
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IS THERE
ANYTHING
ELSE YOU'RE
CONCERNED
ABOUT?

THERE.

CHAPTER 18



YES,
MA'AM.

KUDOU
HERE
WILL FIX
IT FOR
YOU.



THEY'RE
THRILLED TO
HAVE A NEW
MAHJONG
PLAYER.

IF YOU
NEED
ANYTHING,
JUST LET
US KNOW.

WA-HA-HA! MUST
BE TOUGH, HAVIN'
A SLAVE-DRIVIN'
SENIOR COWORKER.
THAT SHOULD DO IT
FOR NOW. THANKS,
KUJIRAI.

I'LL SEE
YA NEXT
TIME
AT THE
PLAZA,
KUDOU.

雞仔屋
CHICKS



CLATTER
カチカチ



YOU'RE
THE TYPE
OLDER
PEOPLE
LIKE, HUH,
KUDOU?





MY PLACE IS PRETTY CLOSE. WANT TO TAKE A LITTLE REST?



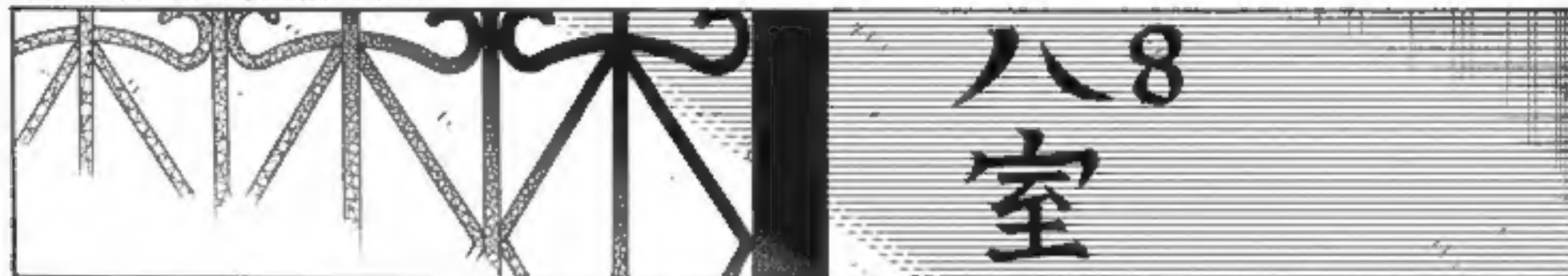
UH-OH. IS IT HEAT-STROKE?

SORRY. I GOT DIZZY ALL OF A SUDDEN...

WHAT'S WRONG, KUDOU?



DOOR: GOOD LUCK (UPSIDE-DOWN)



COME ON IN.



YOU OKAY?

EIGHT...

RATTLE RATTLE

HEF HEF HEF



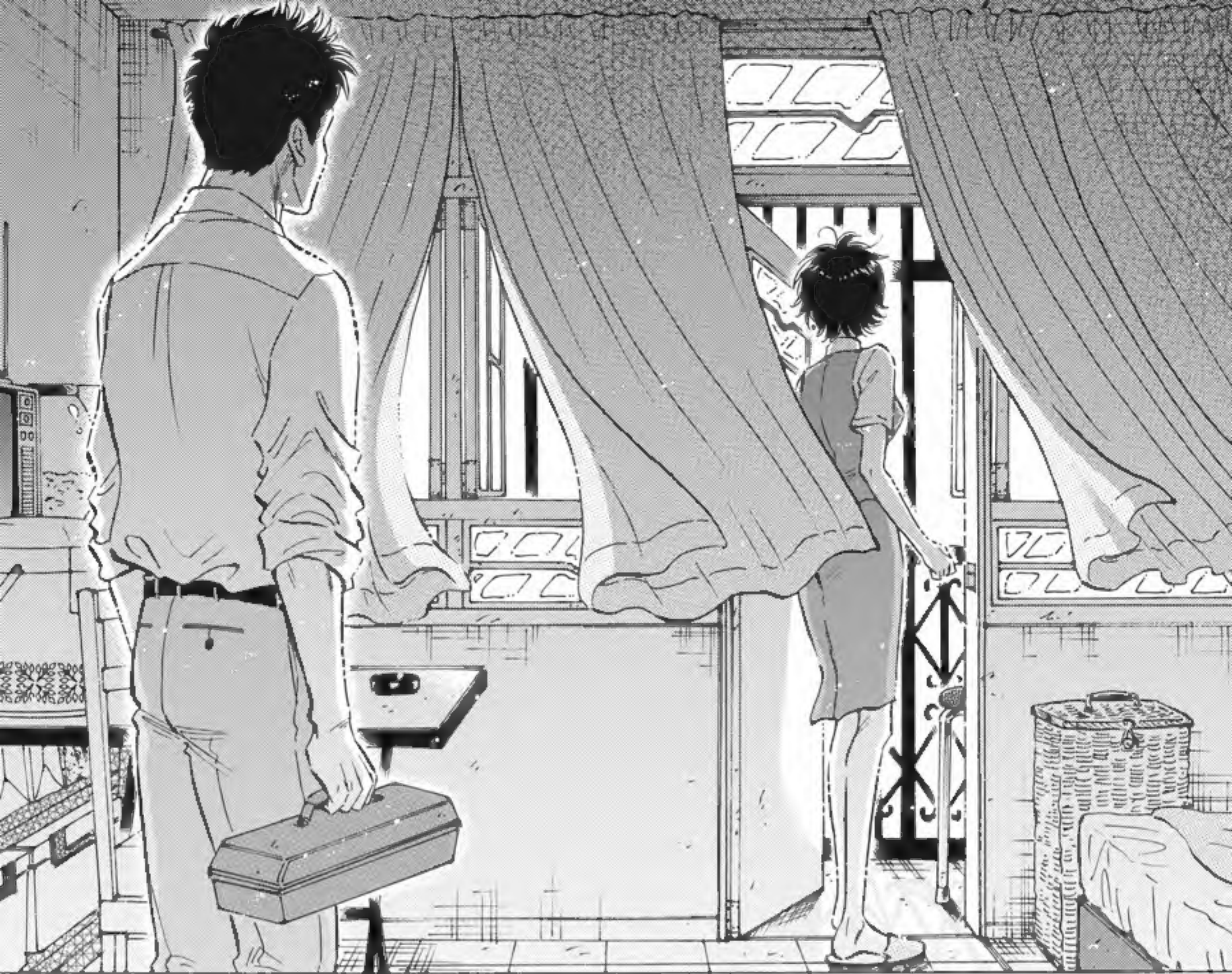
ERR, I...!

AH!

HE COME IN, ALREADY.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?





...MAY
I WASH
MY FACE
FIRST?

HEH-HEH-
HEH! DON'T BE
SHY—YOU CAN
LIE DOWN. I
DON'T CARE.

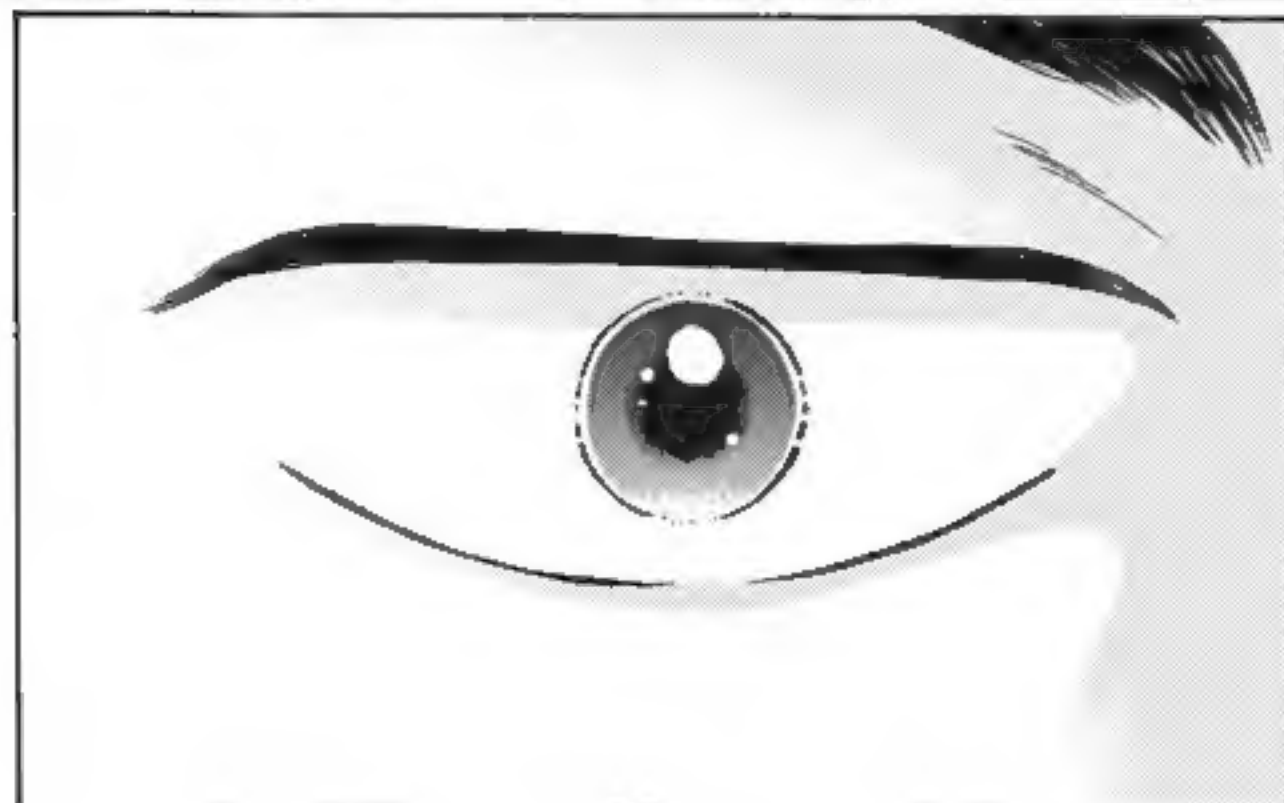
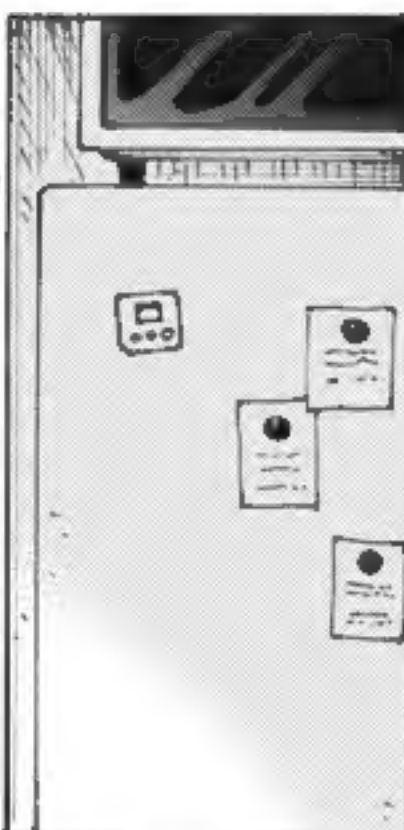
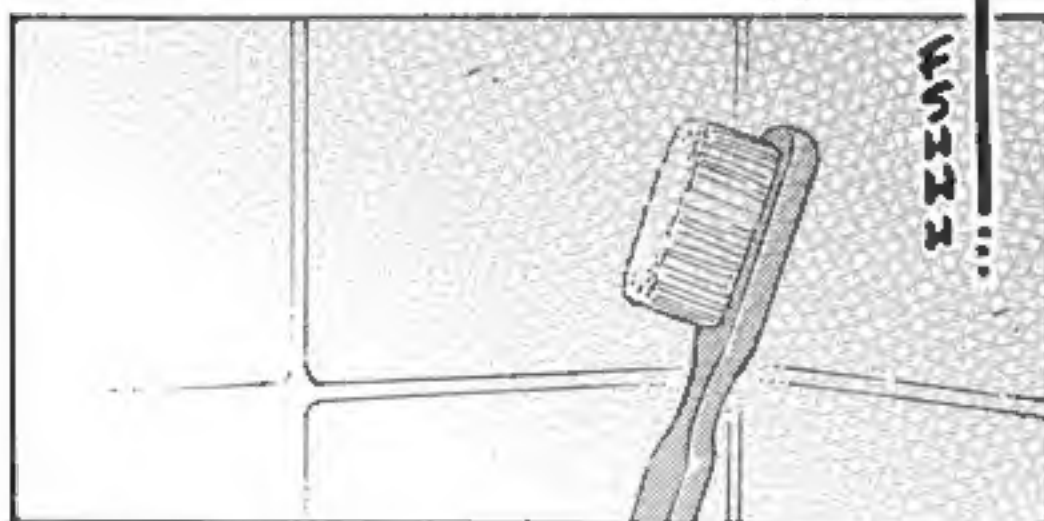
GO
AHEAD.
USE THE
KITCHEN
SINK.

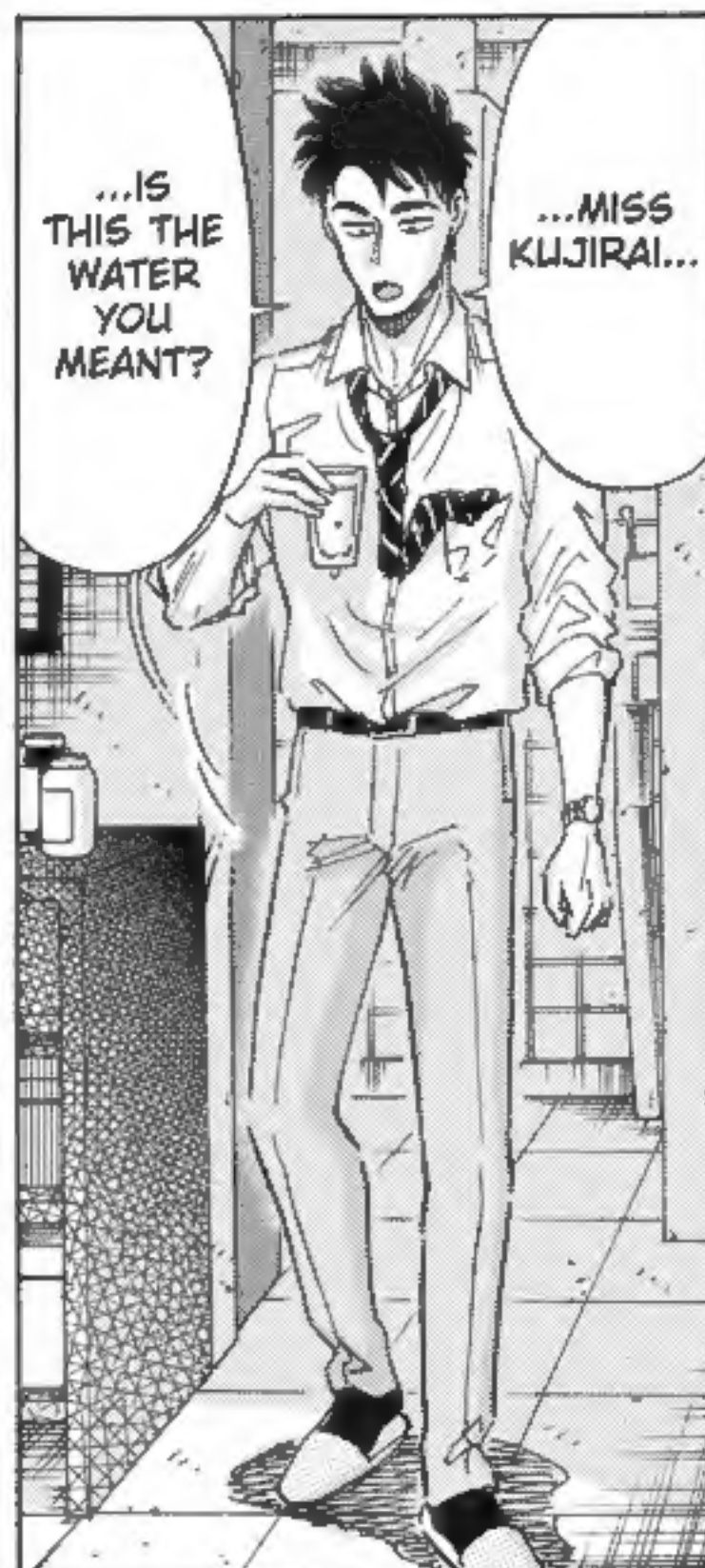


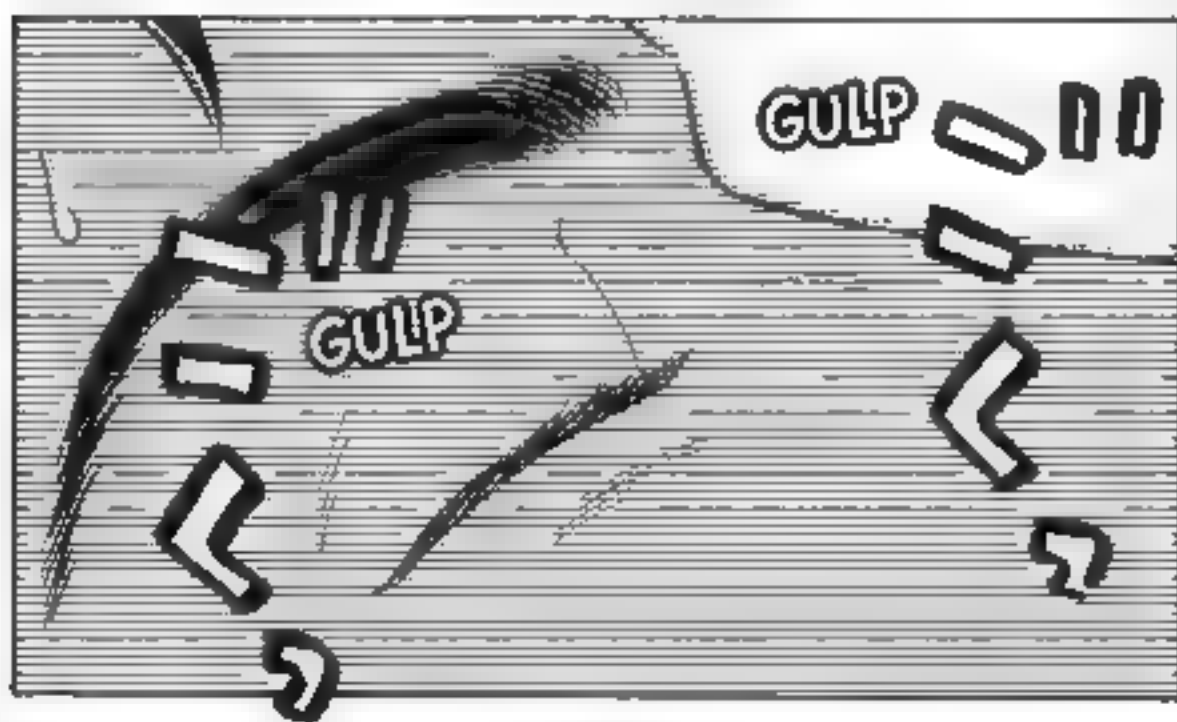
HAVE
A SEAT
THERE
AND
RELAX.

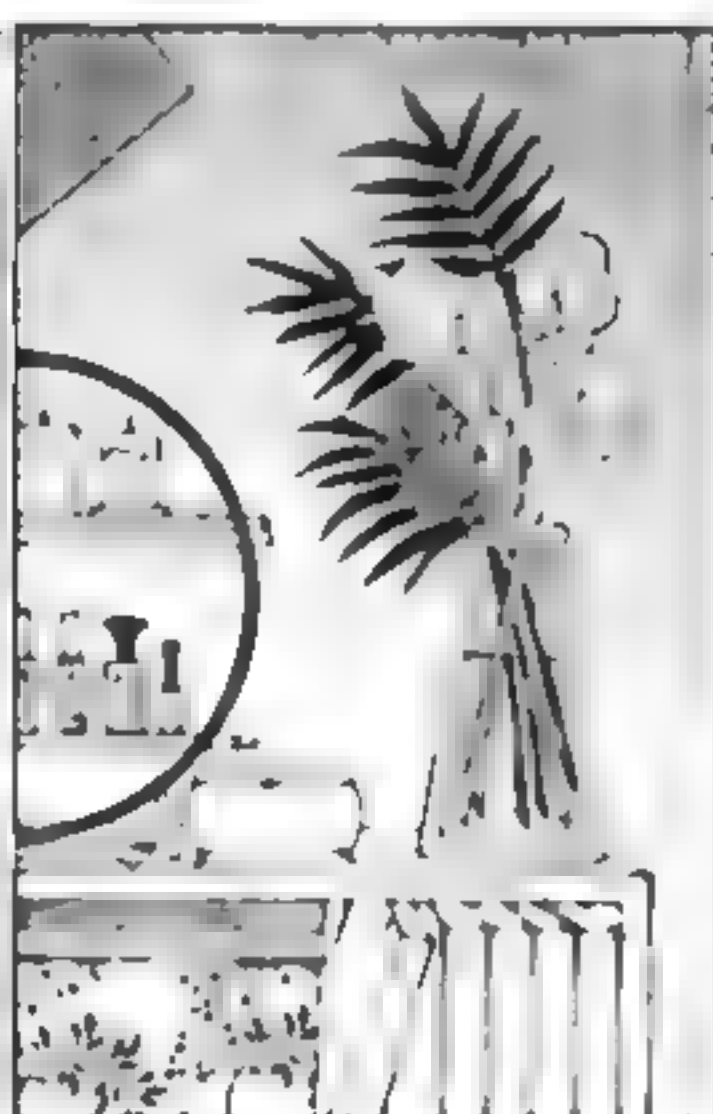
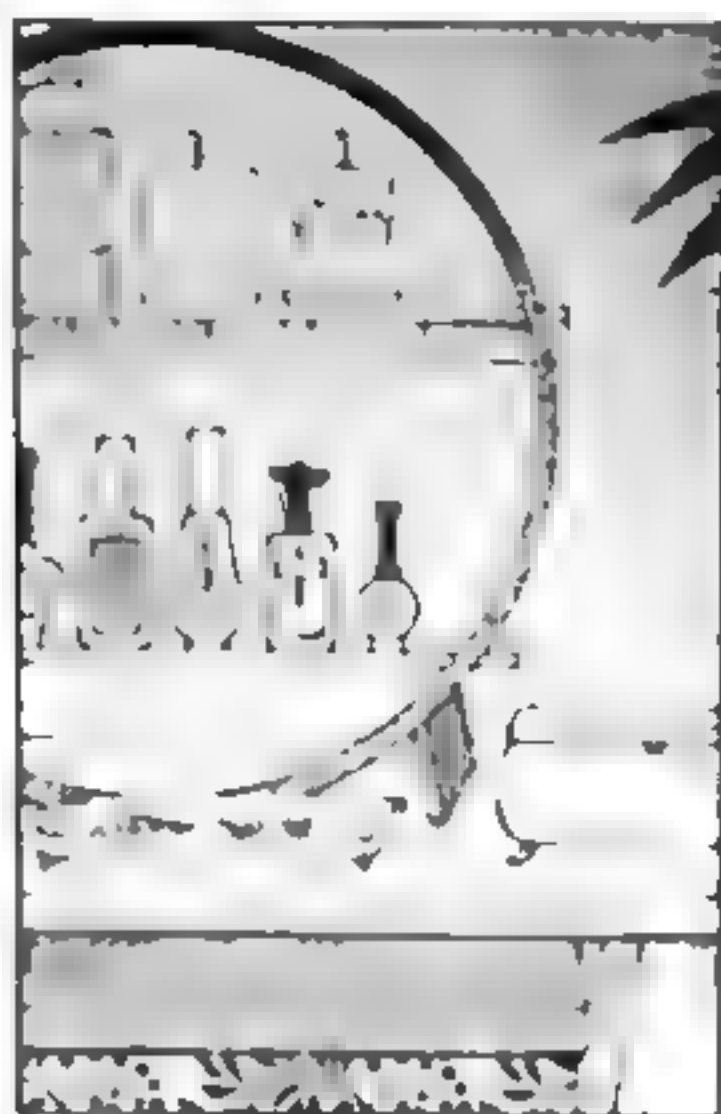
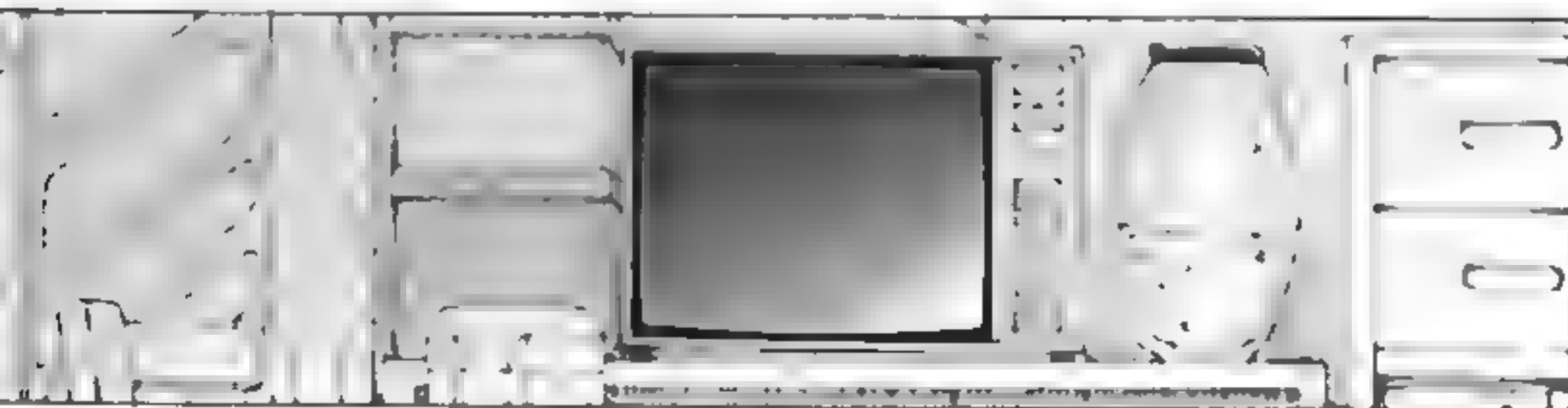
THIS UNIT
IS WELL
VENTILATED.
IT FEELS
GREAT,
RIGHT?

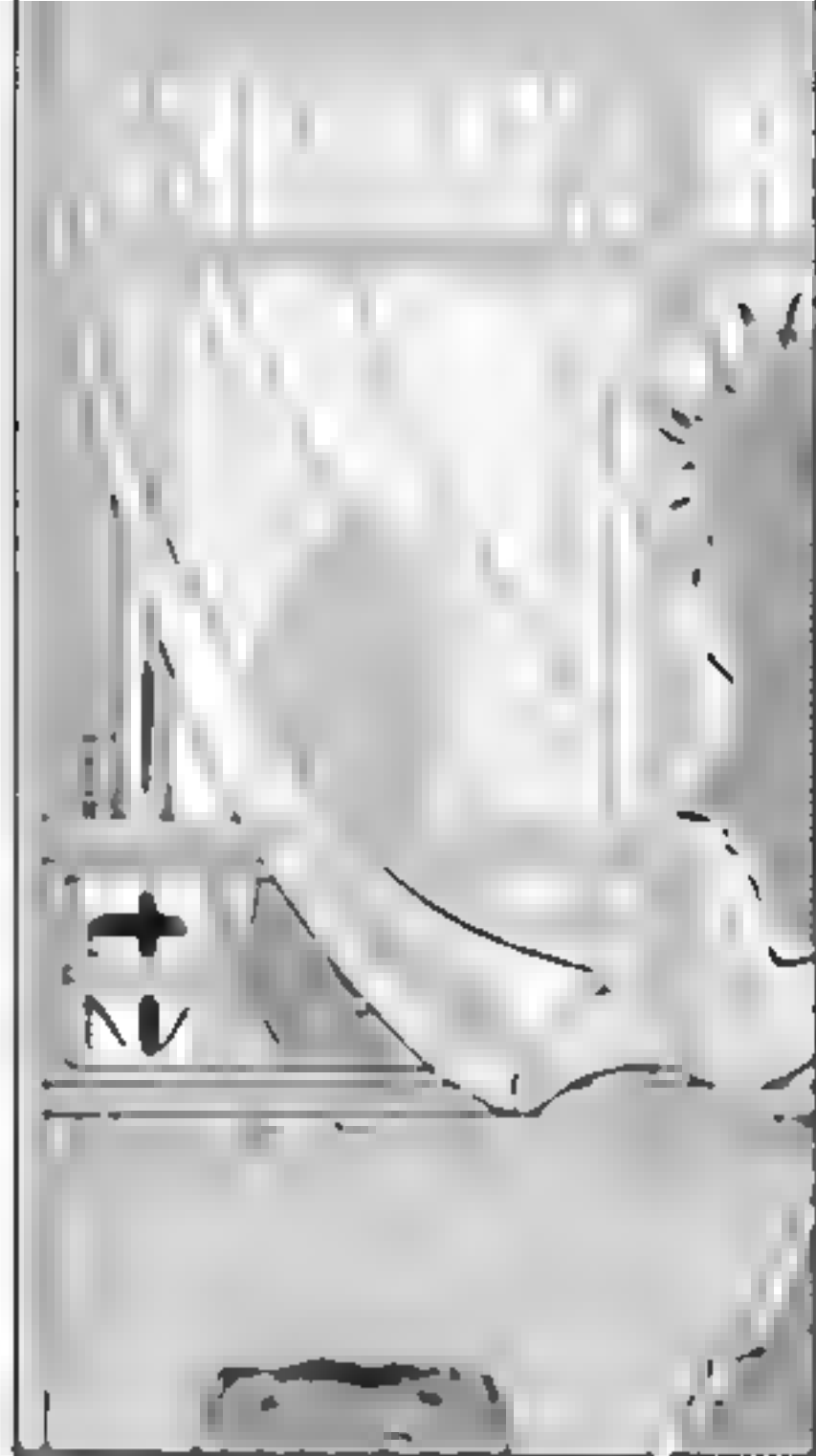






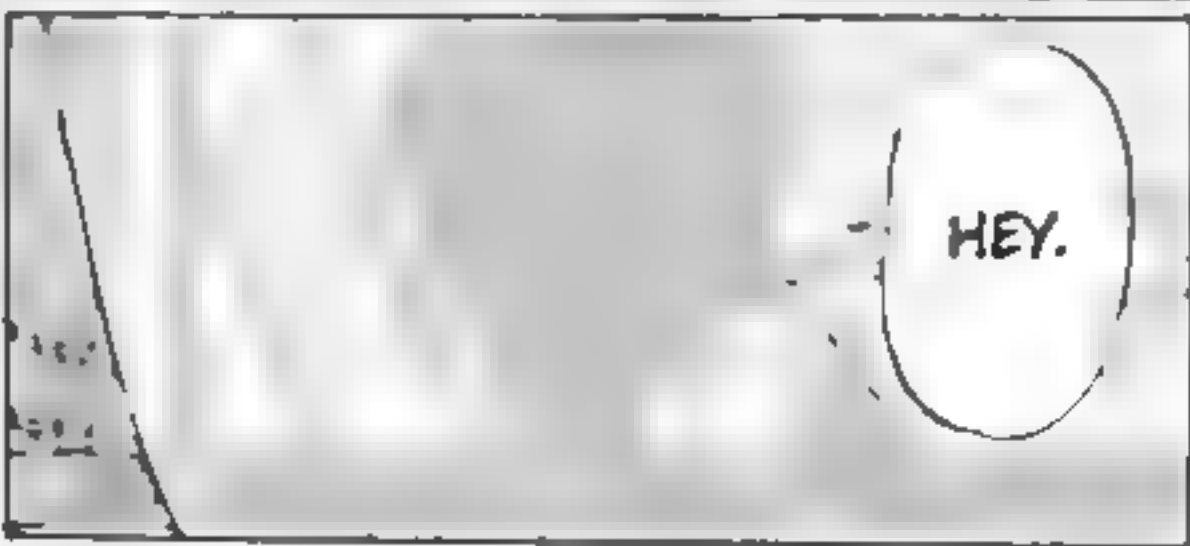
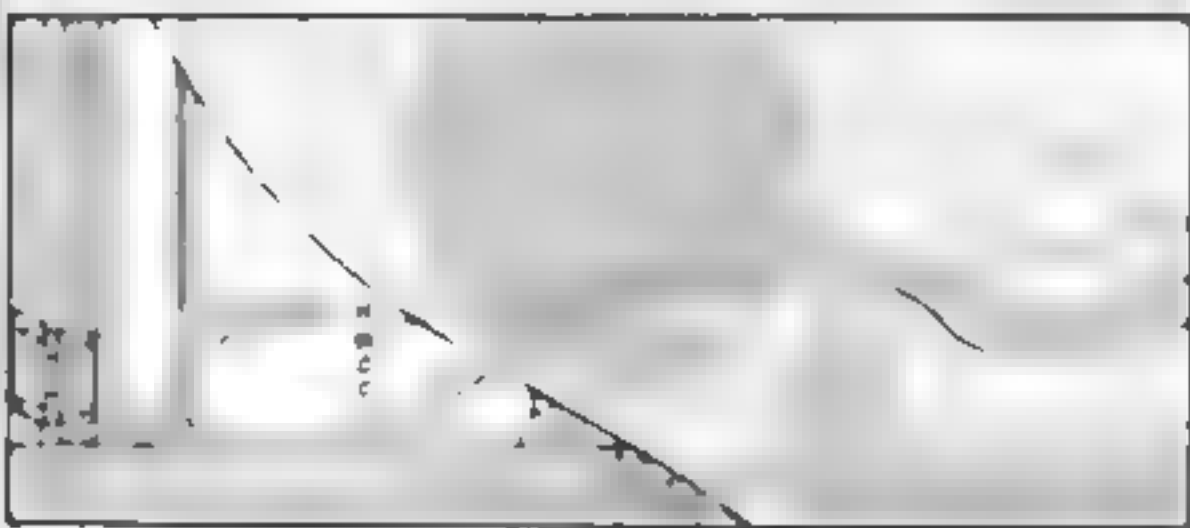
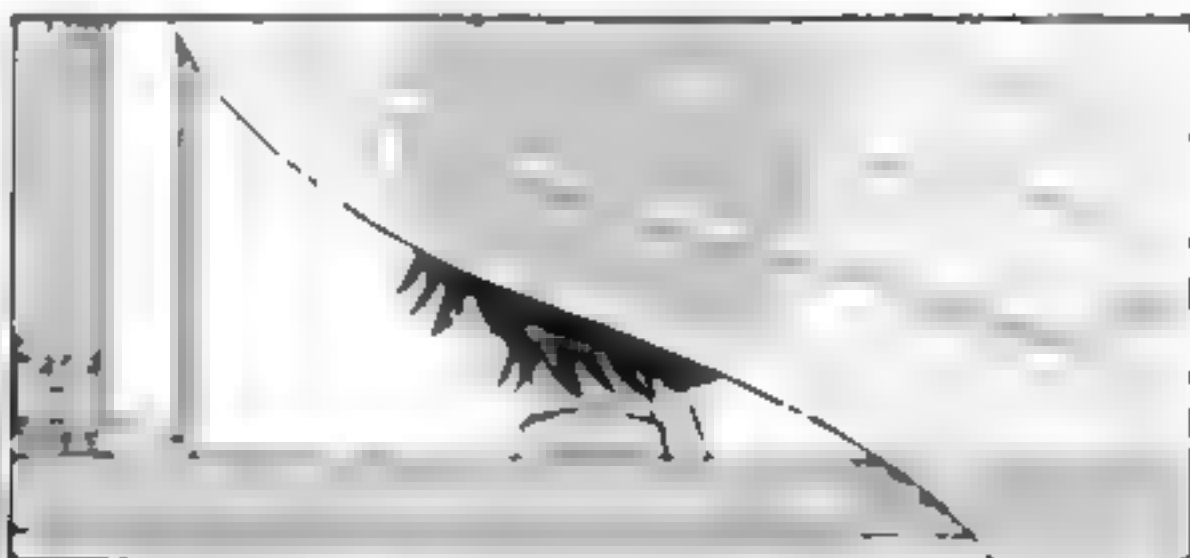






JUST
NOW







I THINK
IT'S AN
INTERESTING
PLACE.

WHAT I
THINK OF
KOW-
LOON ..



THOUGHTS
SO FAR?

IT'S BEEN
ABOUT A
WEEK SINCE
YOU CAME TO
KOWLOON,
RIGHT?

CLATTER



...FOR
SOME
REASON
I CAN'T
EXPLAIN,
ALL THE NEW
EXPERIENCES
AND
SIGHTS...

...GIVE ME
A SENSE OF
NOSTALGIA...



ALSO...



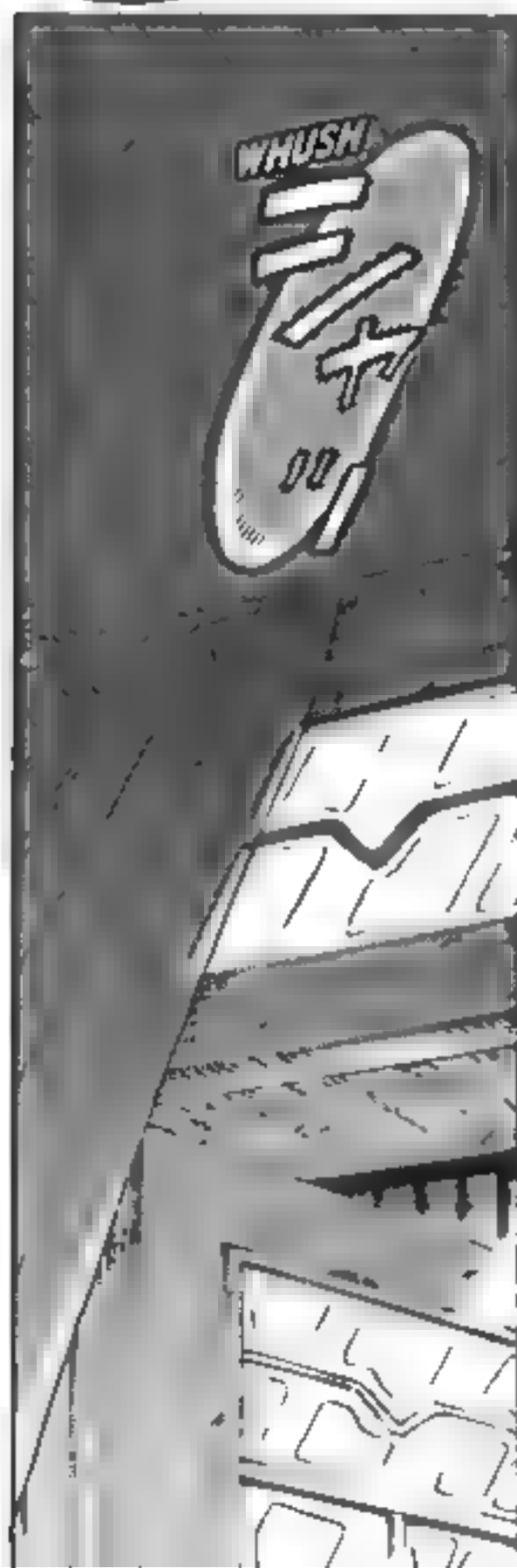


...SO
NOSTALGIA IS
ABOUT MORE
THAN JUST
YOUR OWN
MEMORIES OR
EXPERIENCES.

I HADN'T
LIVED
ANYWHERE
LIKE
KOWLOON
BEFORE
EITHER...

IT'S
HARD
TO PIN
DOWN.

YET IT
FILLS YOUR
HEART WITH
THE SENSE
THAT YOU'VE
KNOWN
SOMETHING
OR SOMEONE
FOR A LONG
TIME.



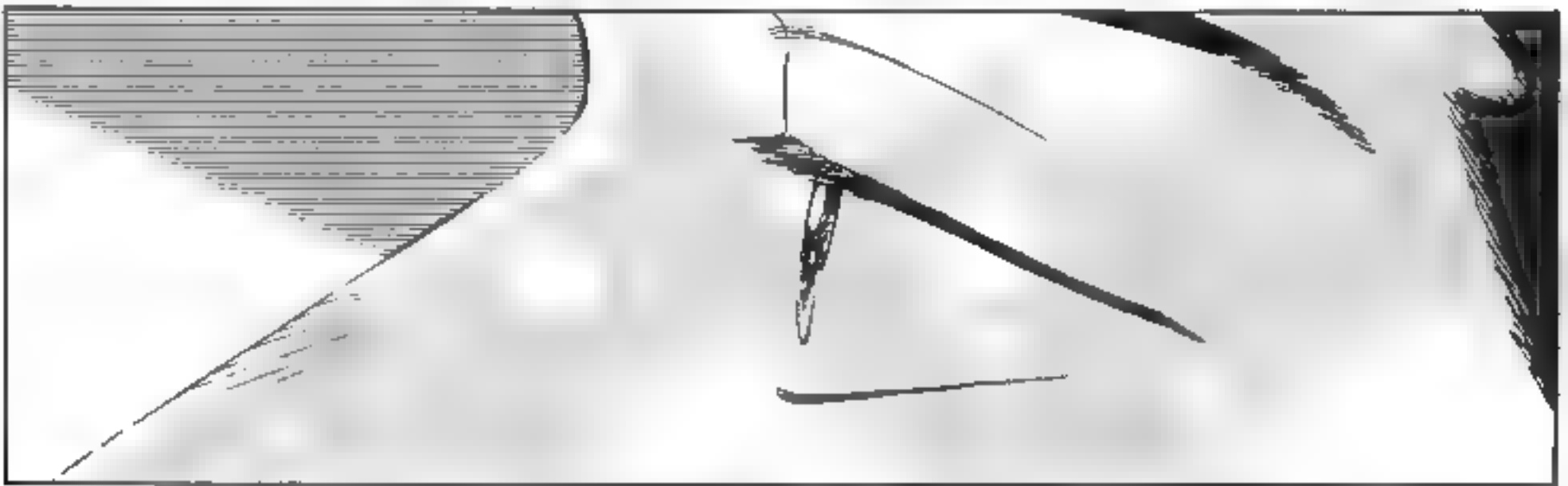
IF YOU
ASK ME,
"NOSTALGIA"
IS...

...THE
FEELING OF
WANTING
TO HOLD
SOMETHING
TIGHT
TO YOUR
HEART.





THAT'S
WHY
IT'S THE
SAME AS
LOVE.



.....

ERM...

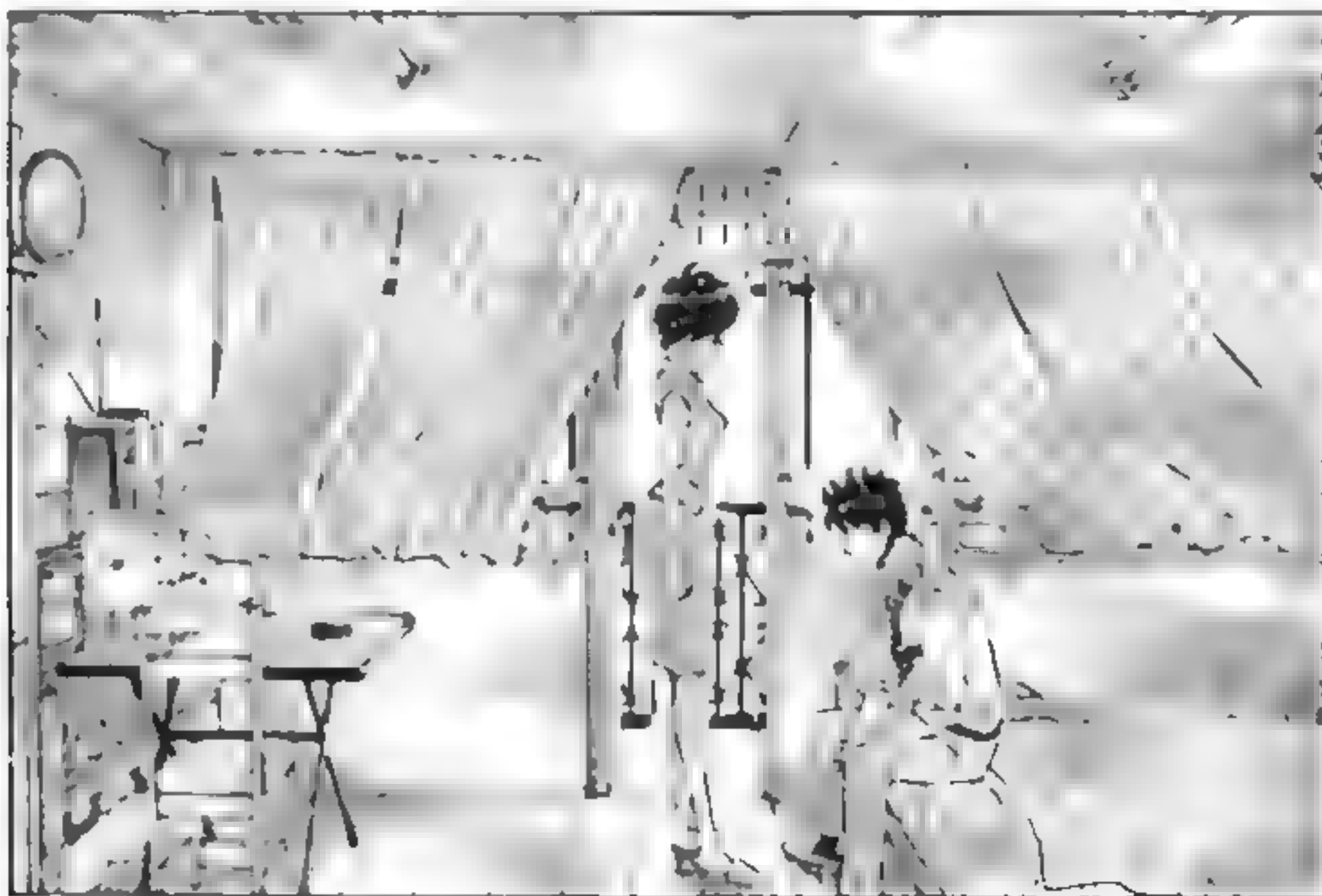


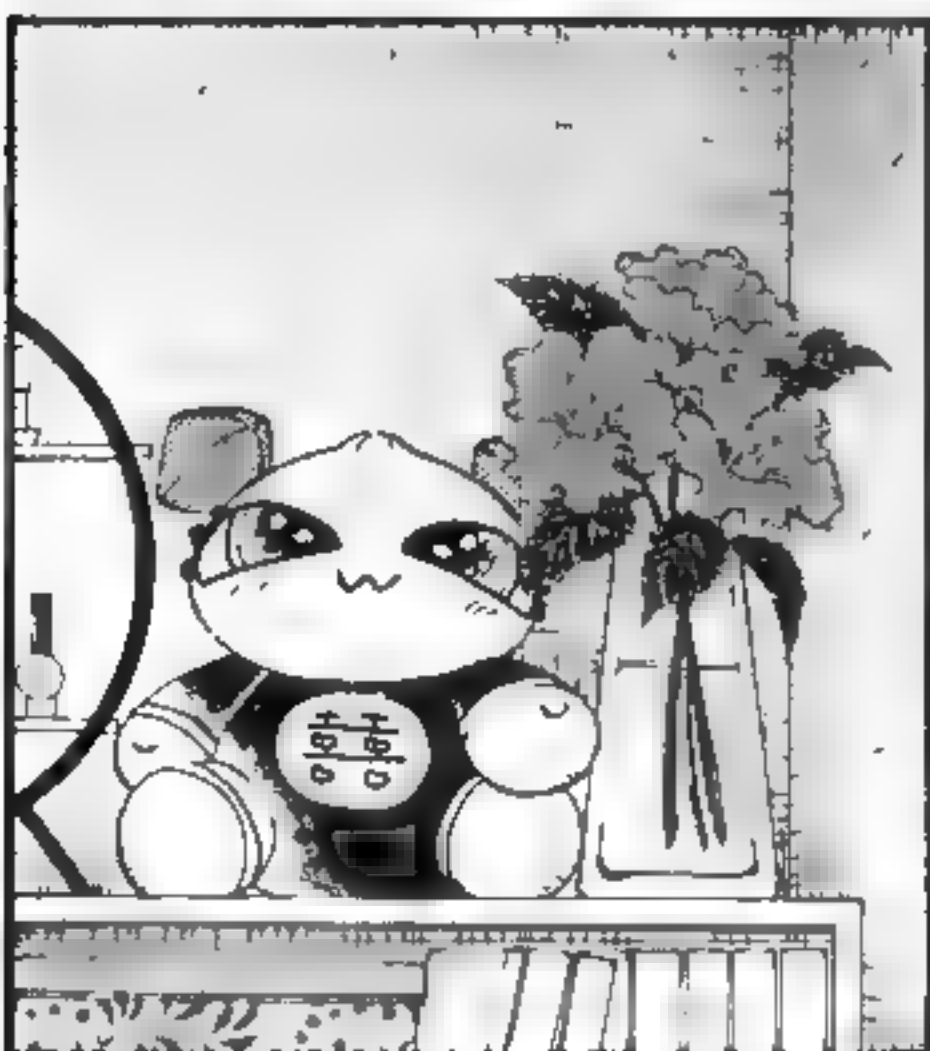
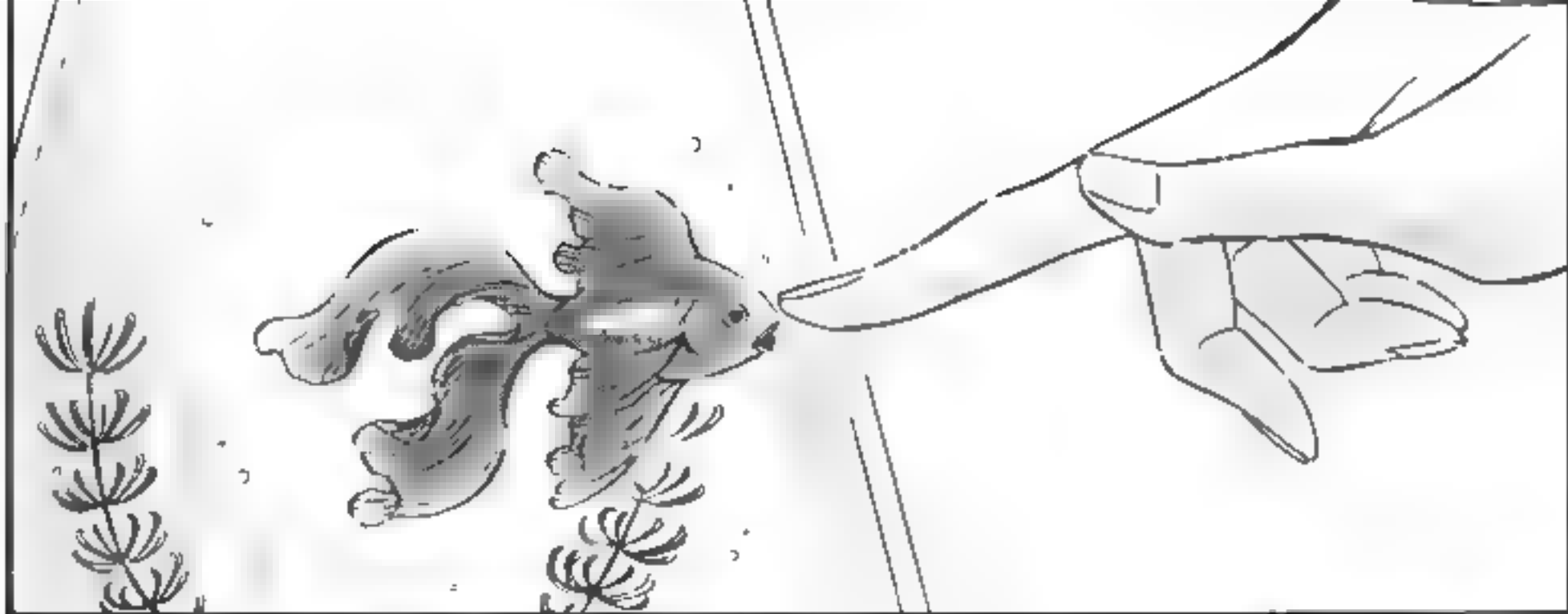
WHAT'S THE
PROBLEM?



WELL,
NO!
I MEAN
...!

HOW
ARE YOU
FEELING,
KUDOU?
SHOULDN'T
YOU LIE
DOWN?





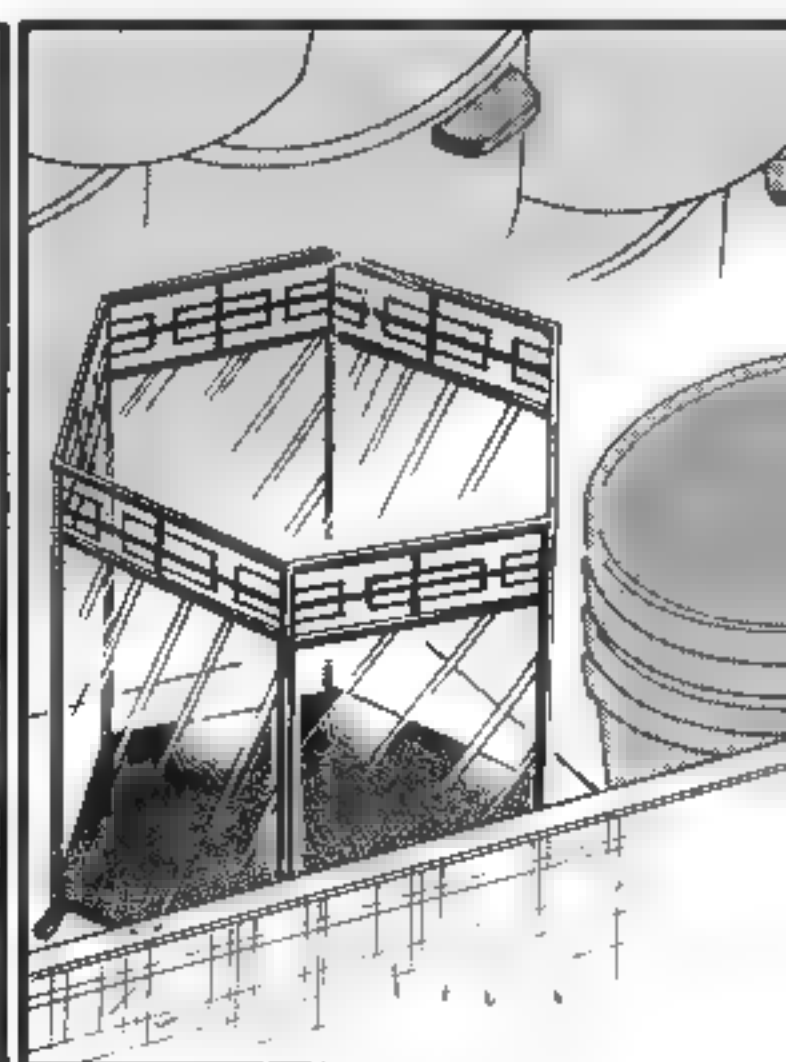
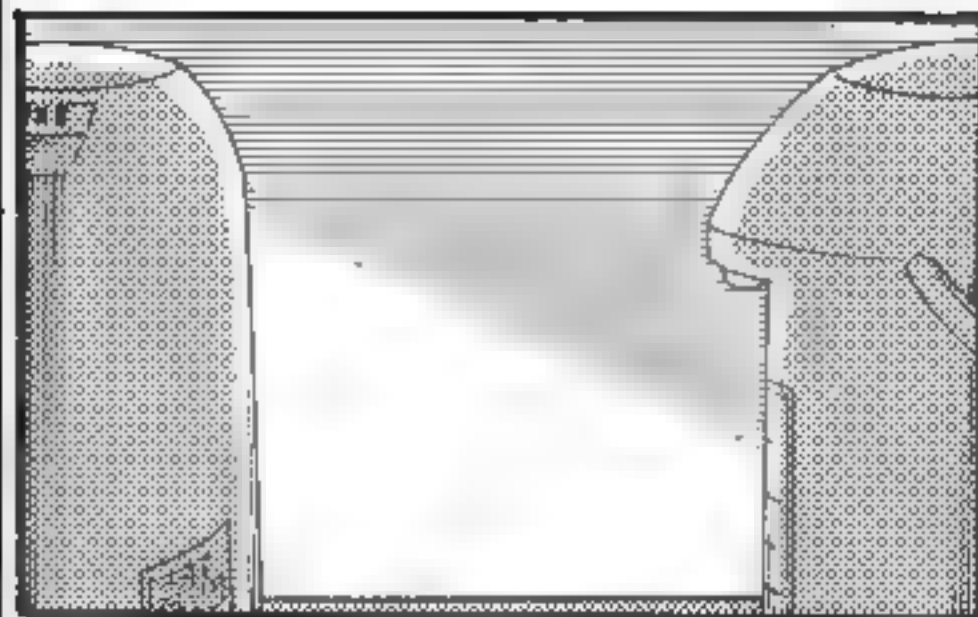
PUSH DOUBLE HAPPINESS





SENT
SHOPPING
FOR
WORK ON
a DAY
OFF.

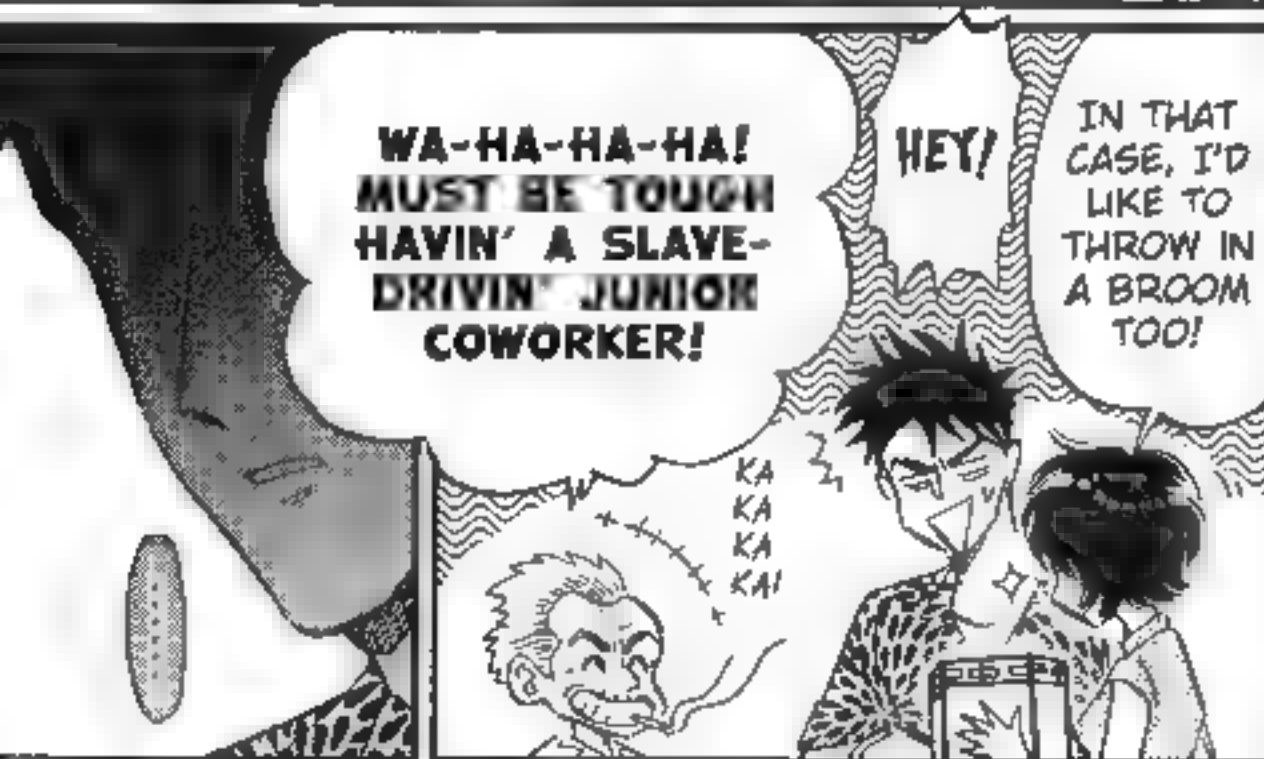
CHAPTER 19





YEAH,
'S NO BIG
DEAL.

REALLY?
ARE YOU
SURE?



WA-HA-HA-HA!
MUST BE TOUGH
HAVIN' A SLAVE-
DRIVIN' JUNIOR
COWORKER!

HEY!

IN THAT
CASE, I'D
LIKE TO
THROW IN
A BROOM
TOO!

KA
KA
KA
KAI



SINCE
WE'RE GIVING
YOU THE EXTRA
SALE, DO US
A FAVOR AND
KNOCK SOME
OFF THE PRICE,
POPS.

WE'RE
ALREADY
WORKING ON
OUR DAY OFF.
I'LL CARRY
IT TO YOUR
PLACE FOR
YOU.

YOU
GOT
IT!



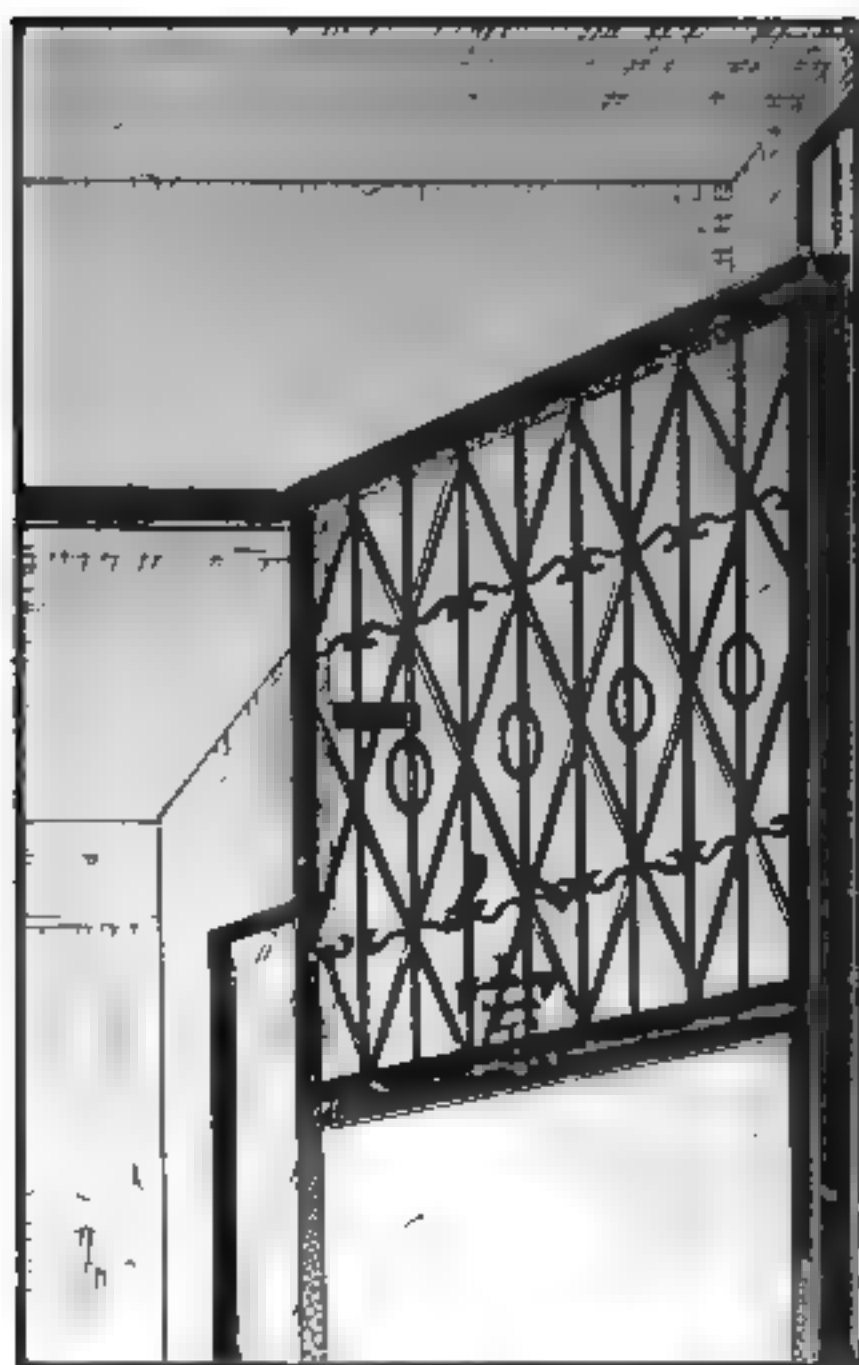
G-GIVE ME
A MINUTE!

HURRY IT
UUUP. I'M
THIRSTY.

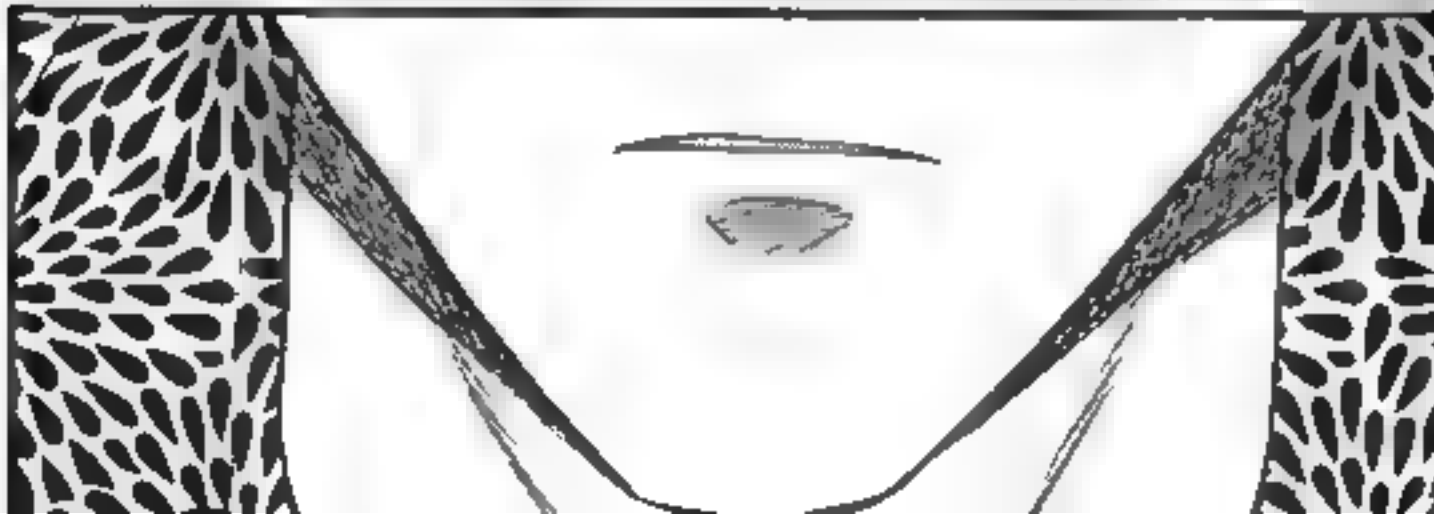
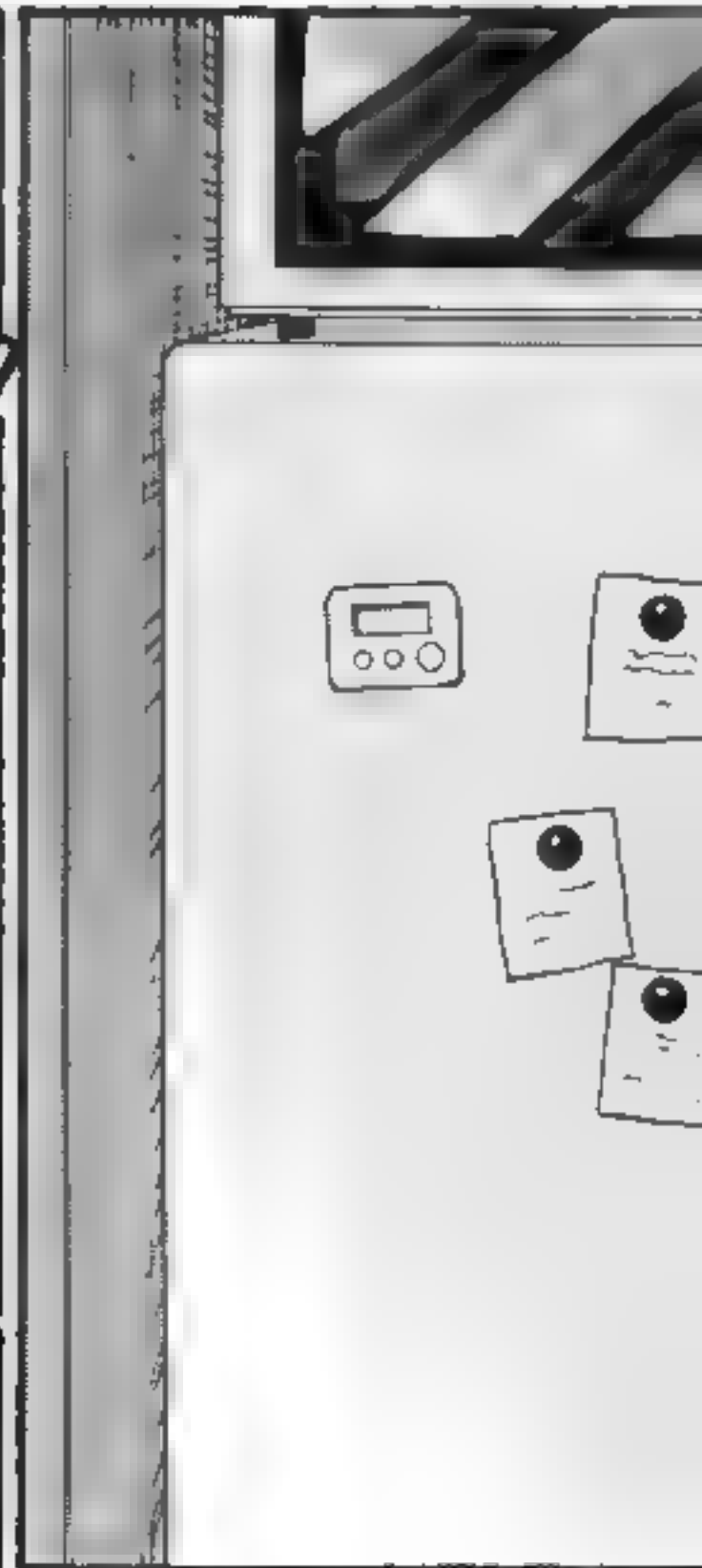
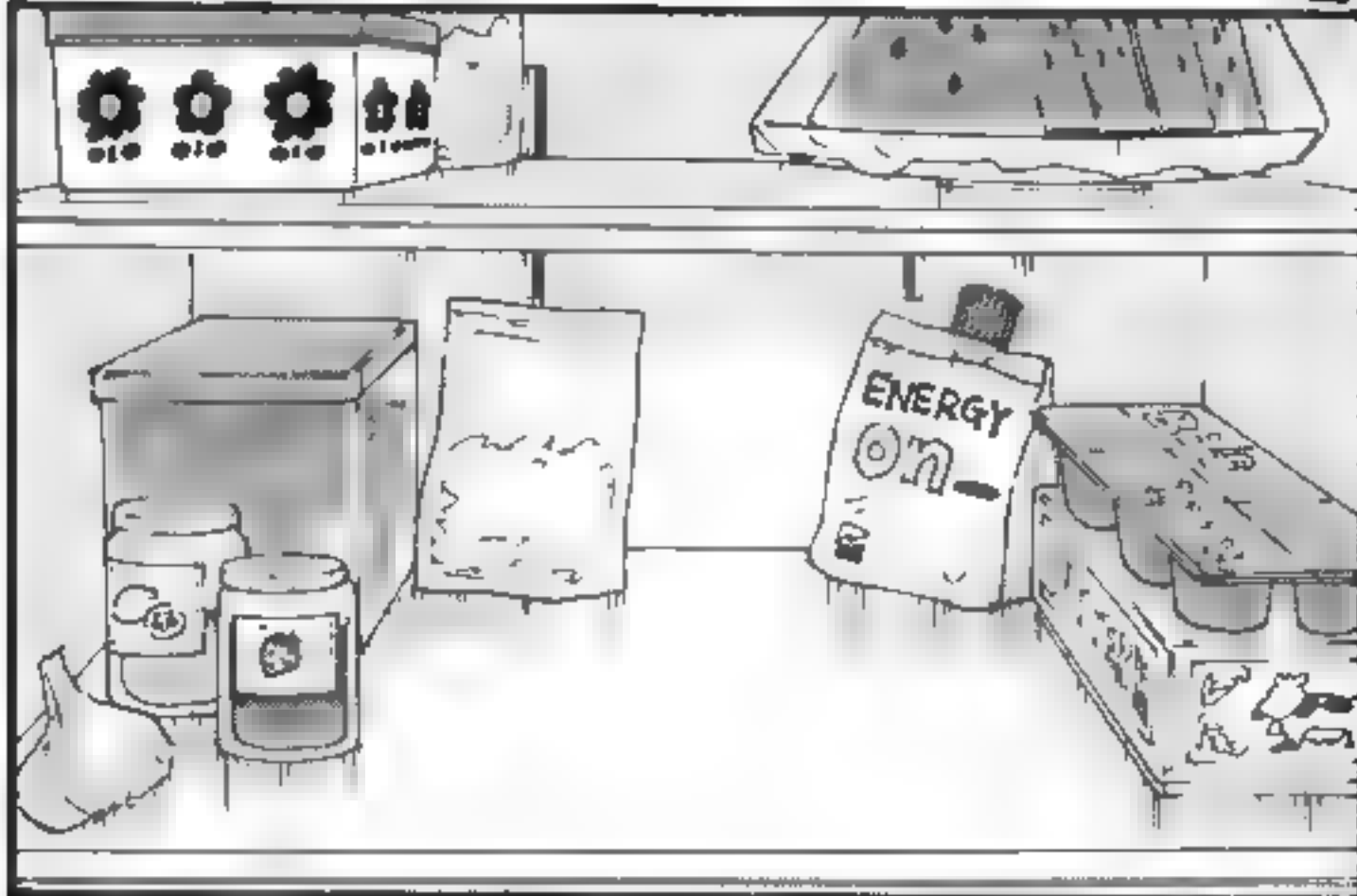
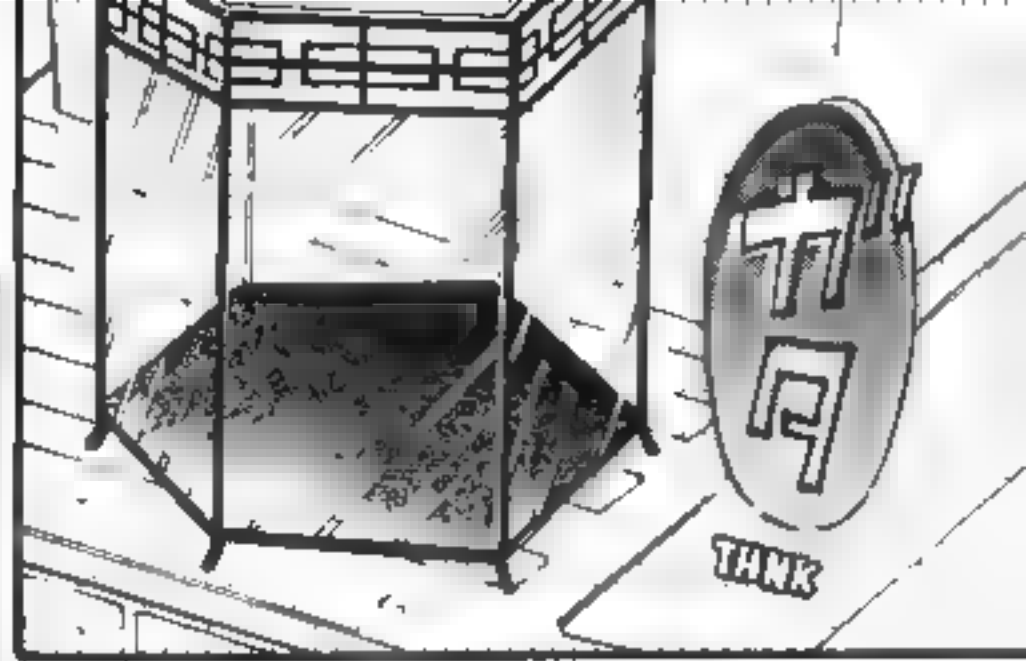


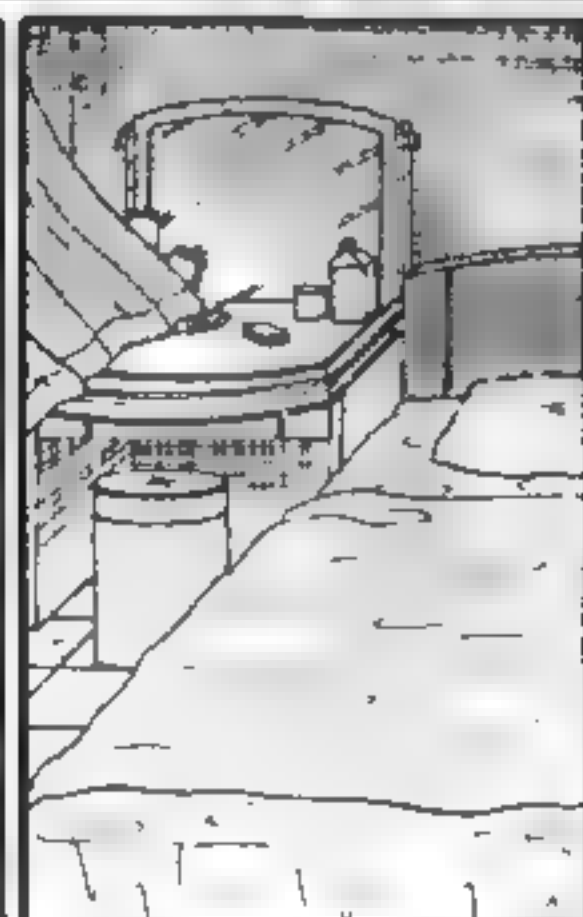
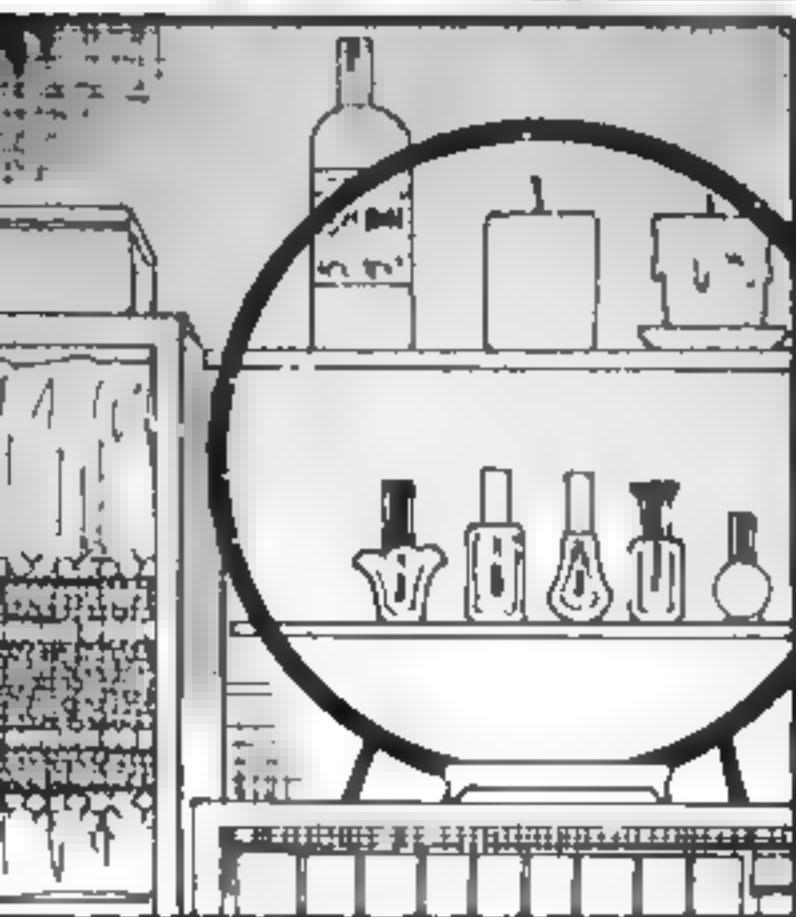
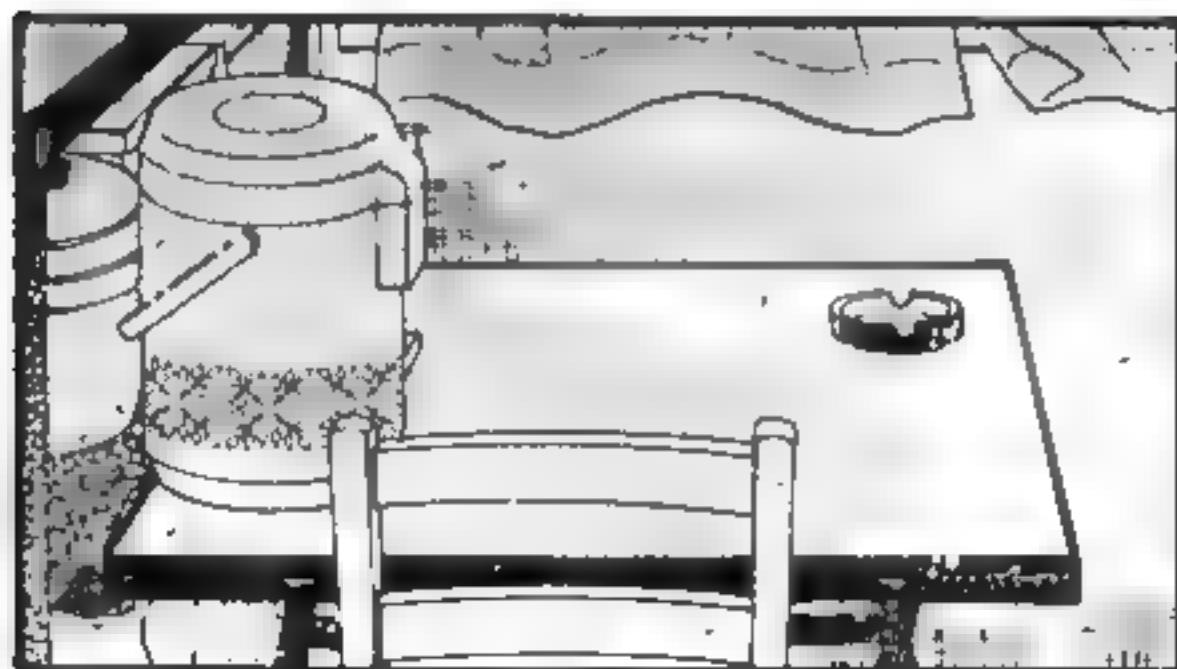
YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO SAY, "SHE'S
LUCKY TO
HAVE SUCH A
NICE SENIOR
COWORKER!"

ALL
RIGHT!



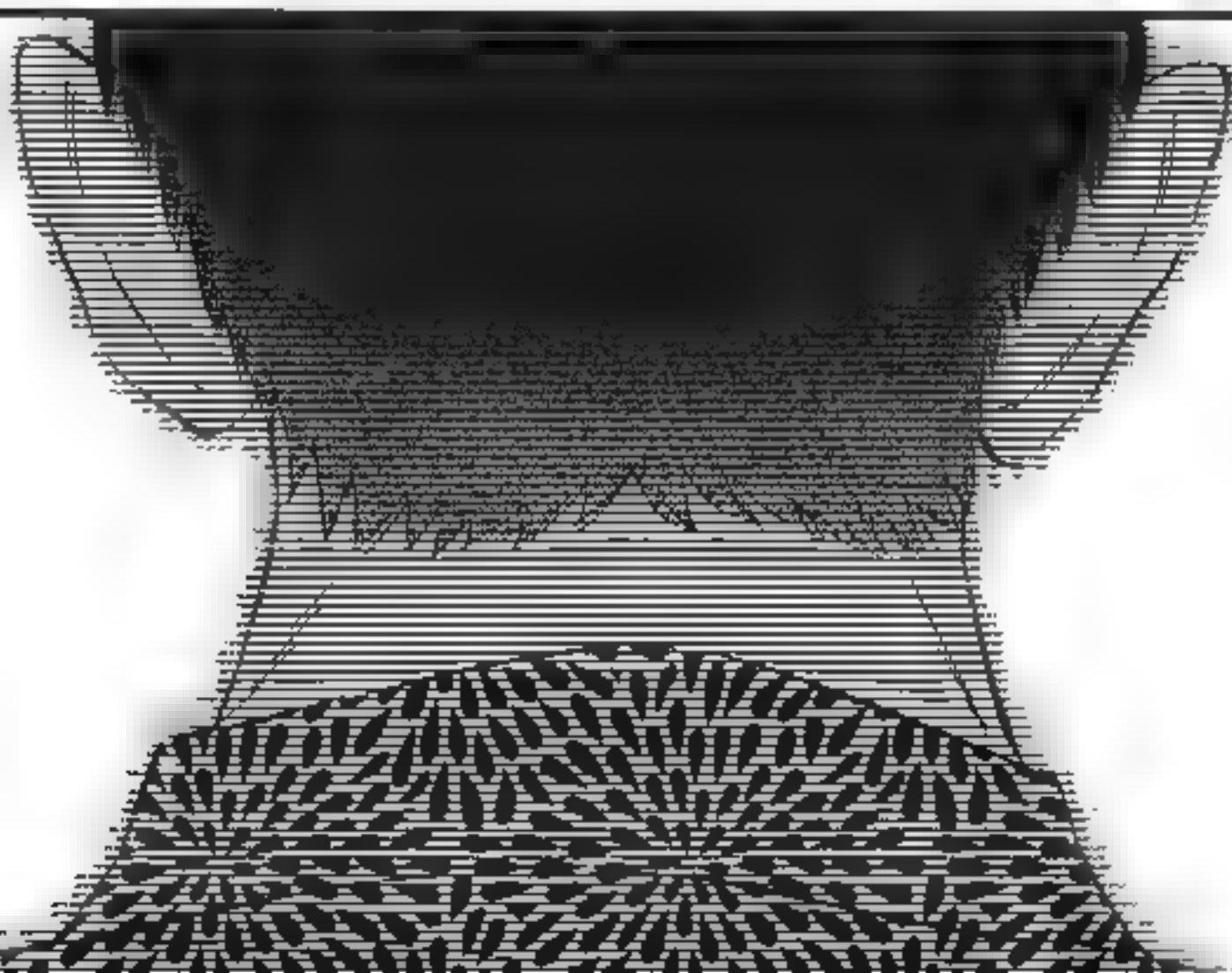
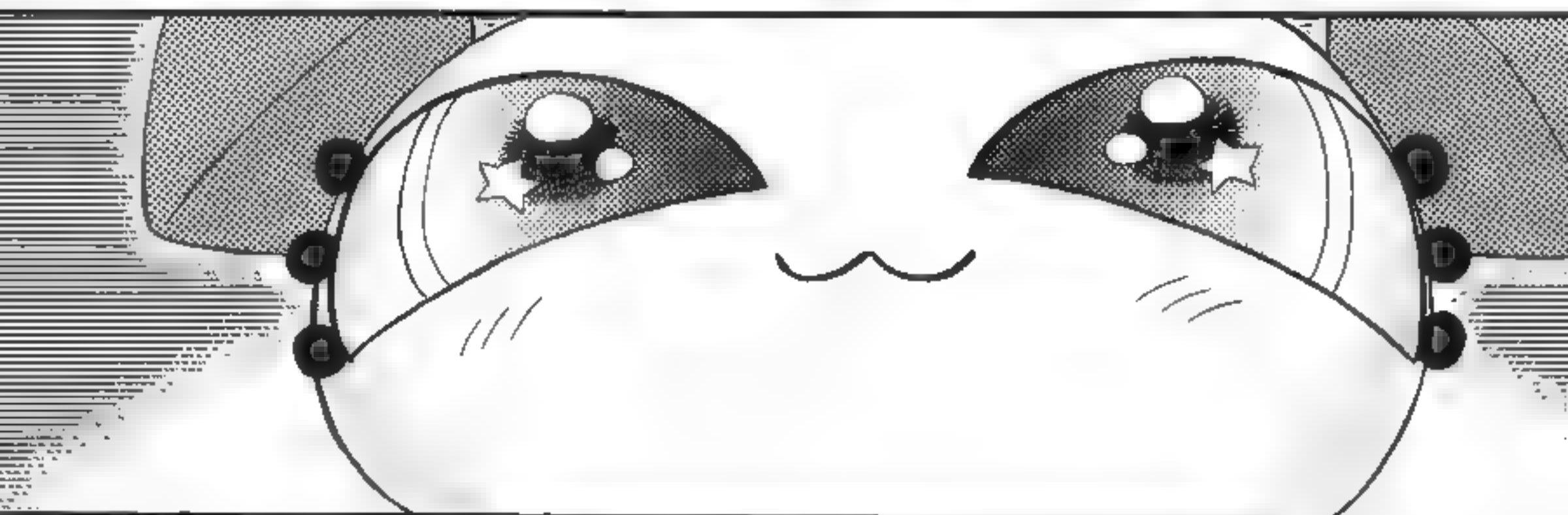


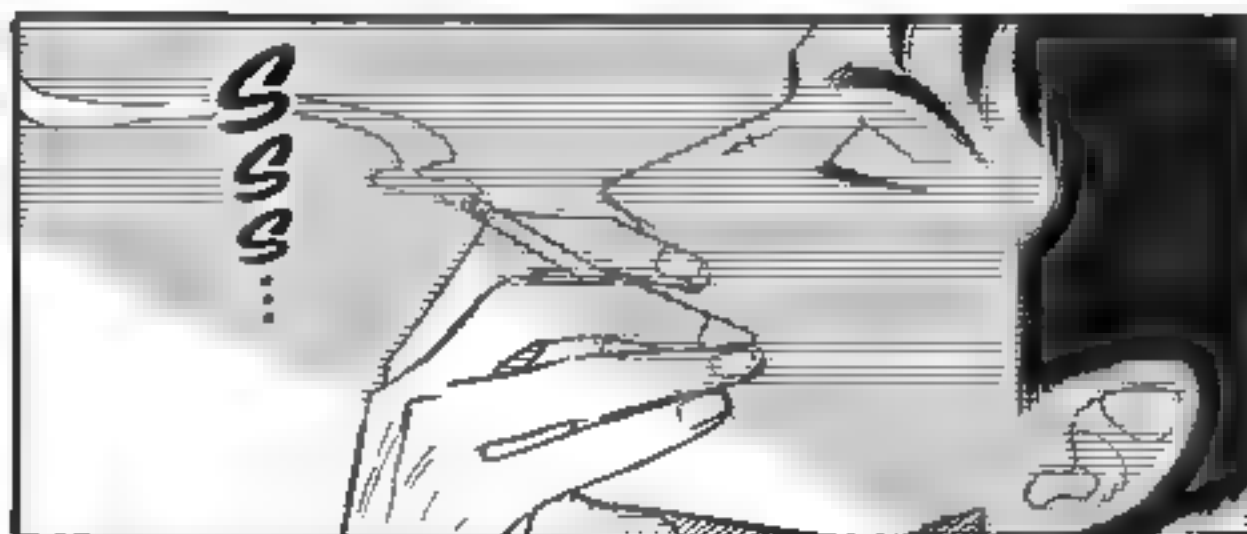
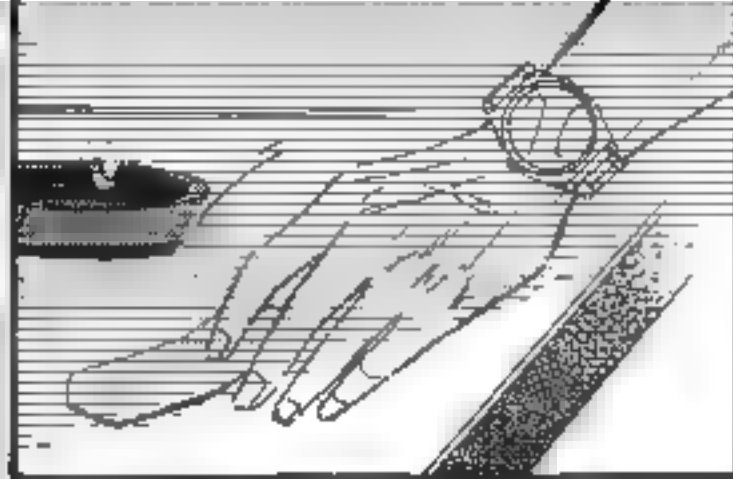




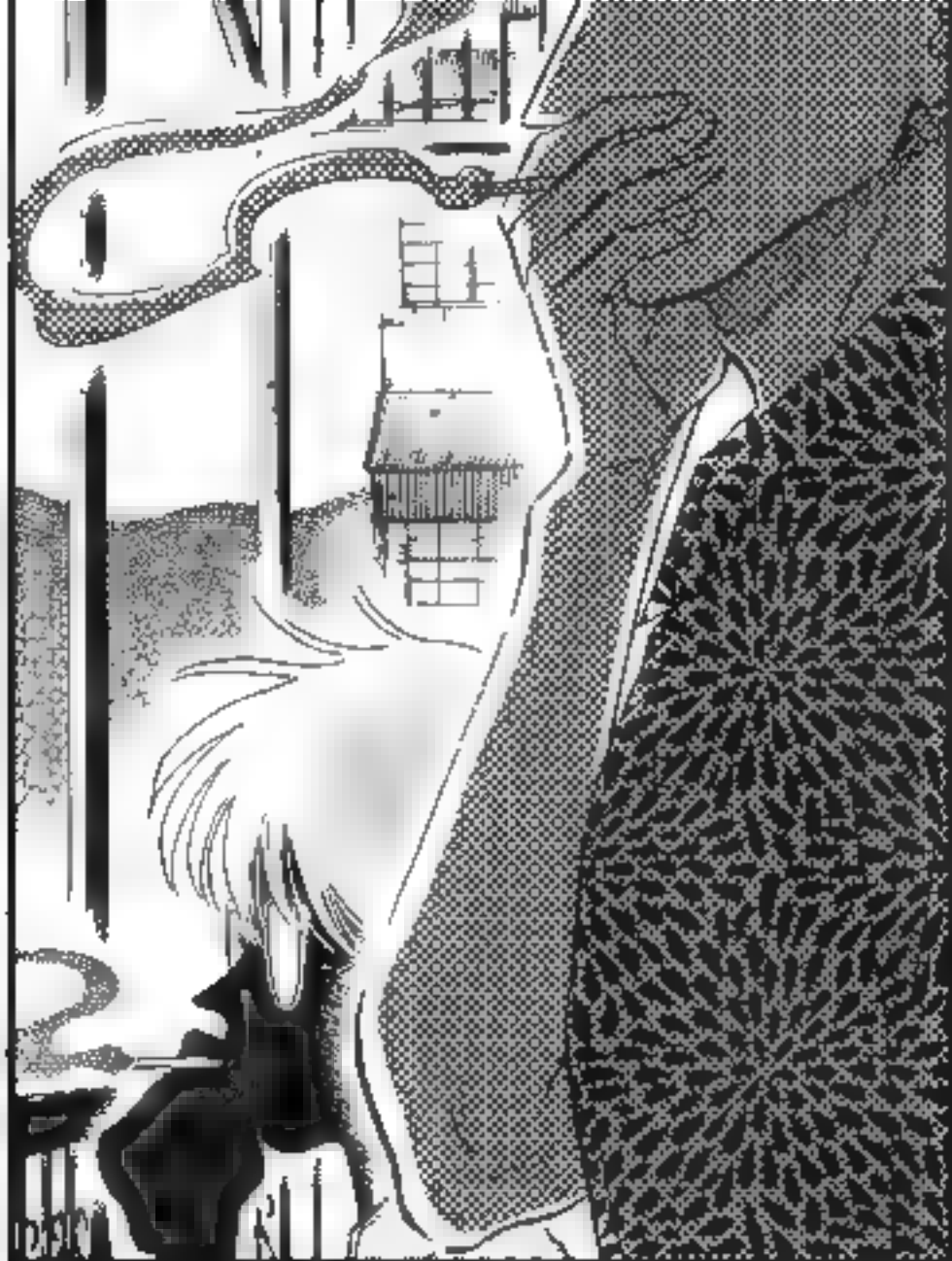


SIGNS/DOLLS: DOUBLE HAPPINESS

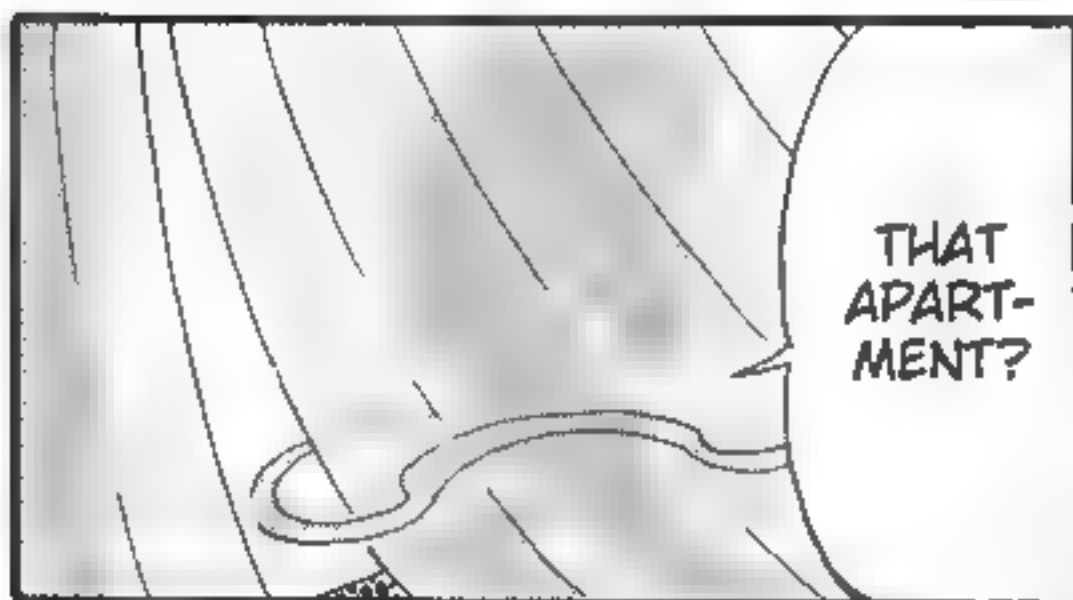








MR.
KUDOU.



THAT
APART-
MENT?



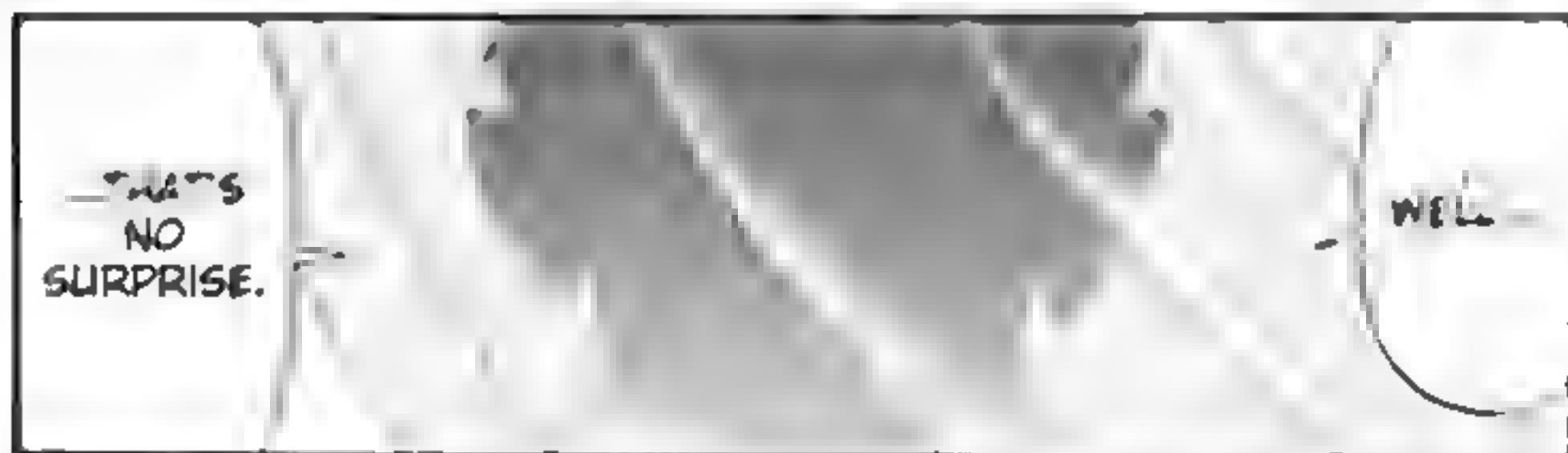
REALLY
!?

THE
ONE WE
PAINTED
IN SAI
JOENG
TOWER.

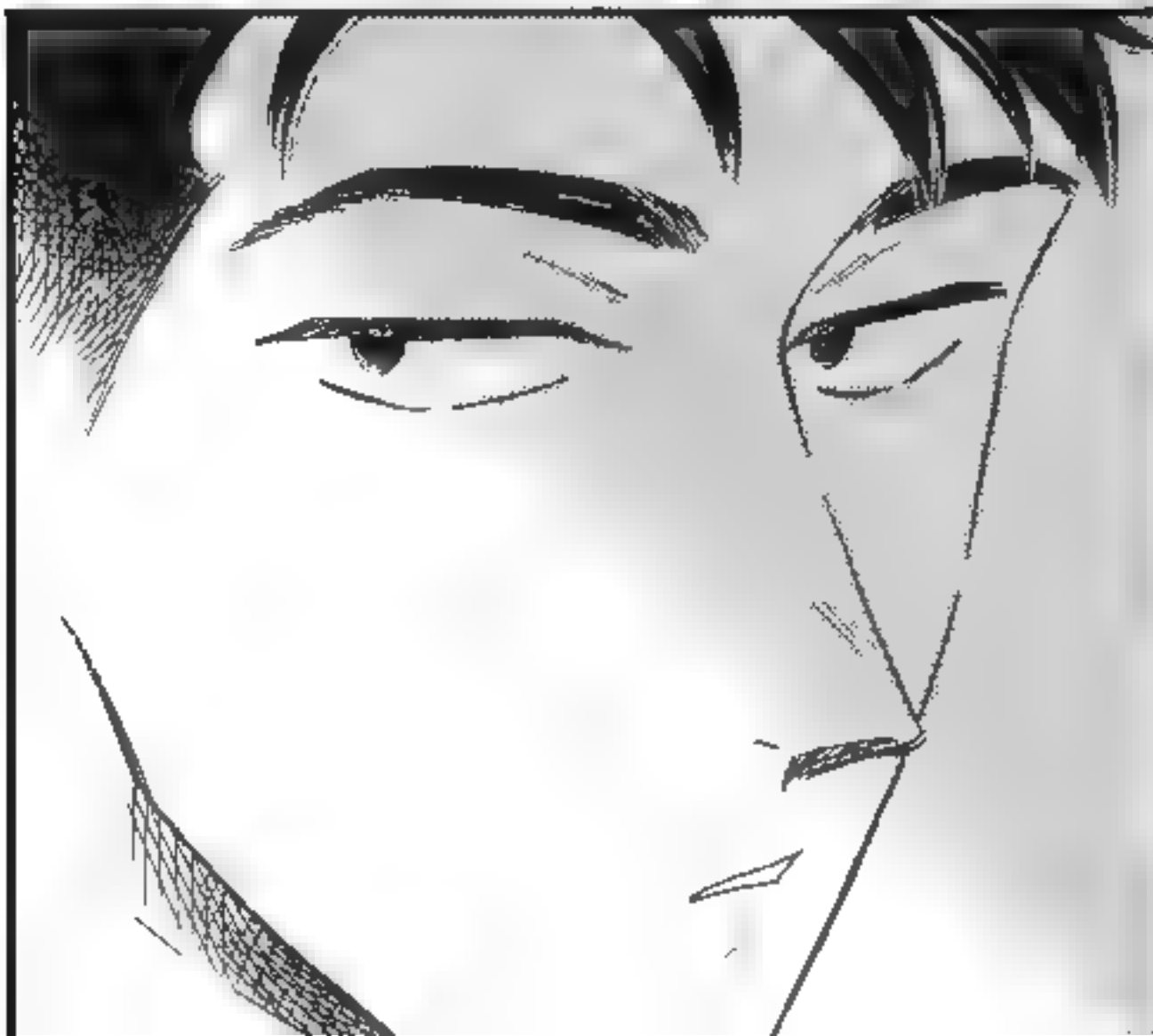


...FINALLY
GOT A
TENANT.

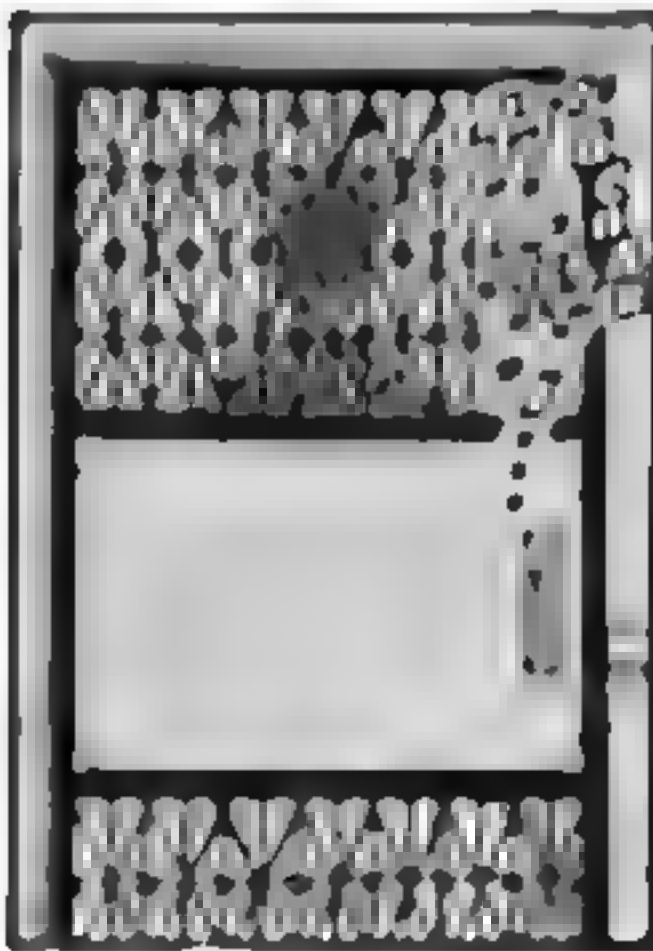
THAT
APART-
MENT...

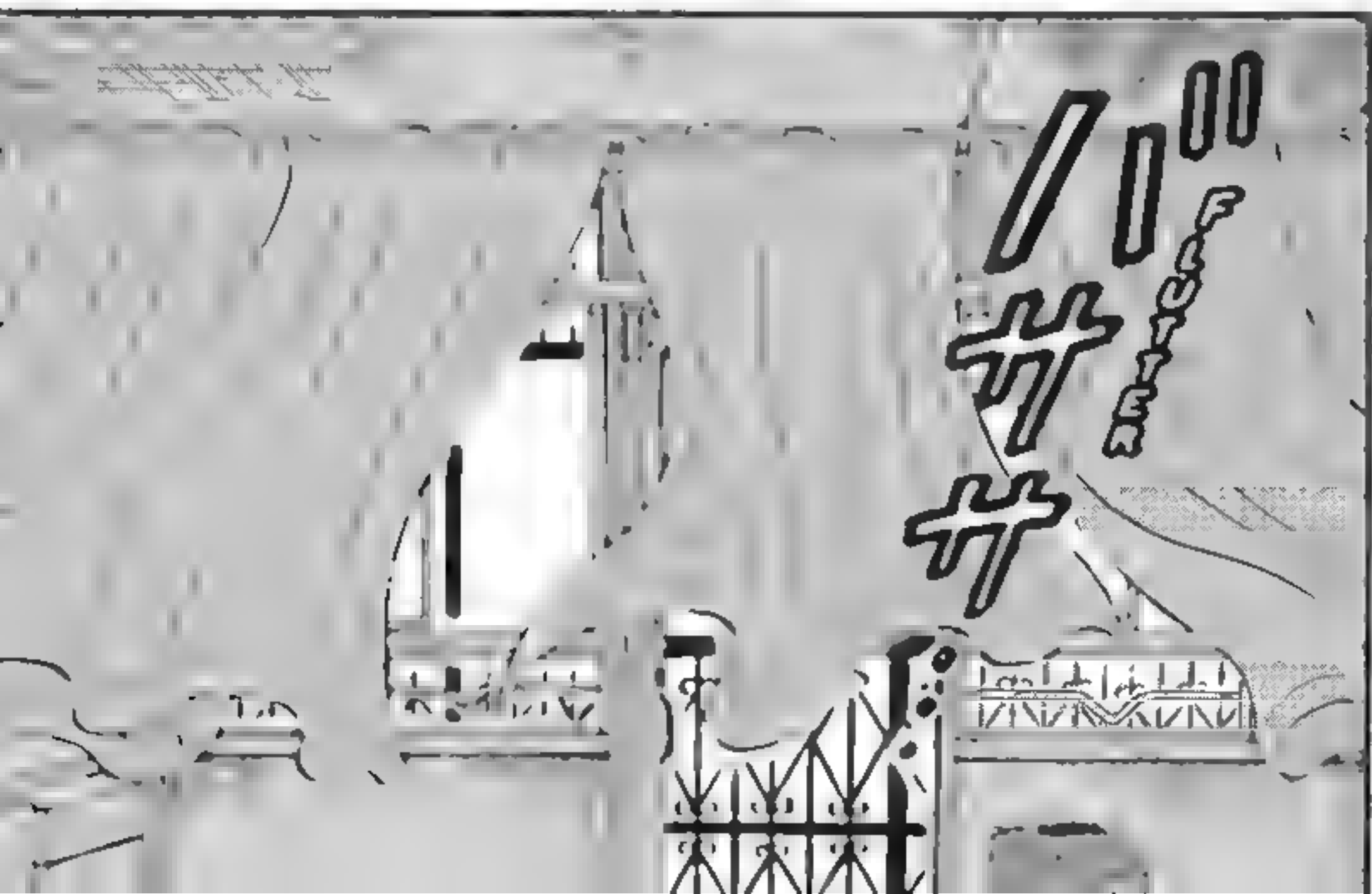
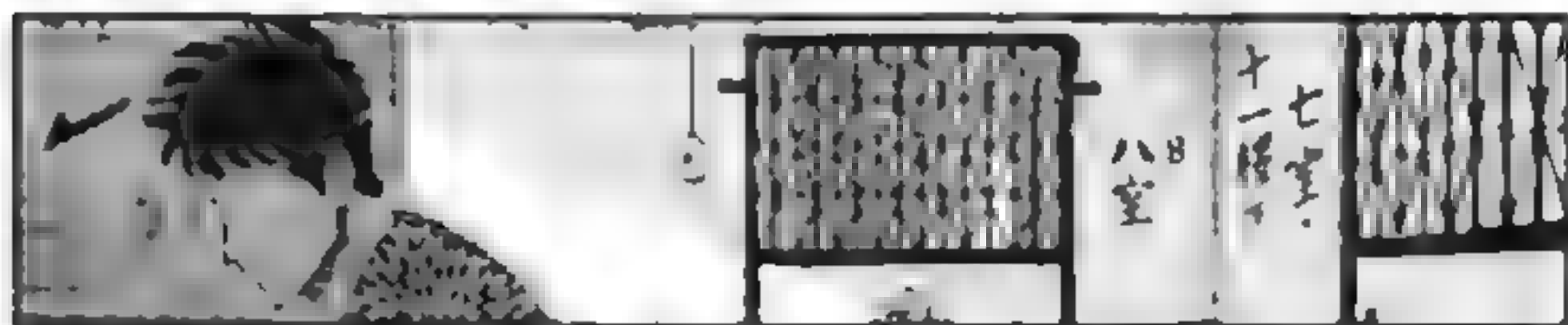


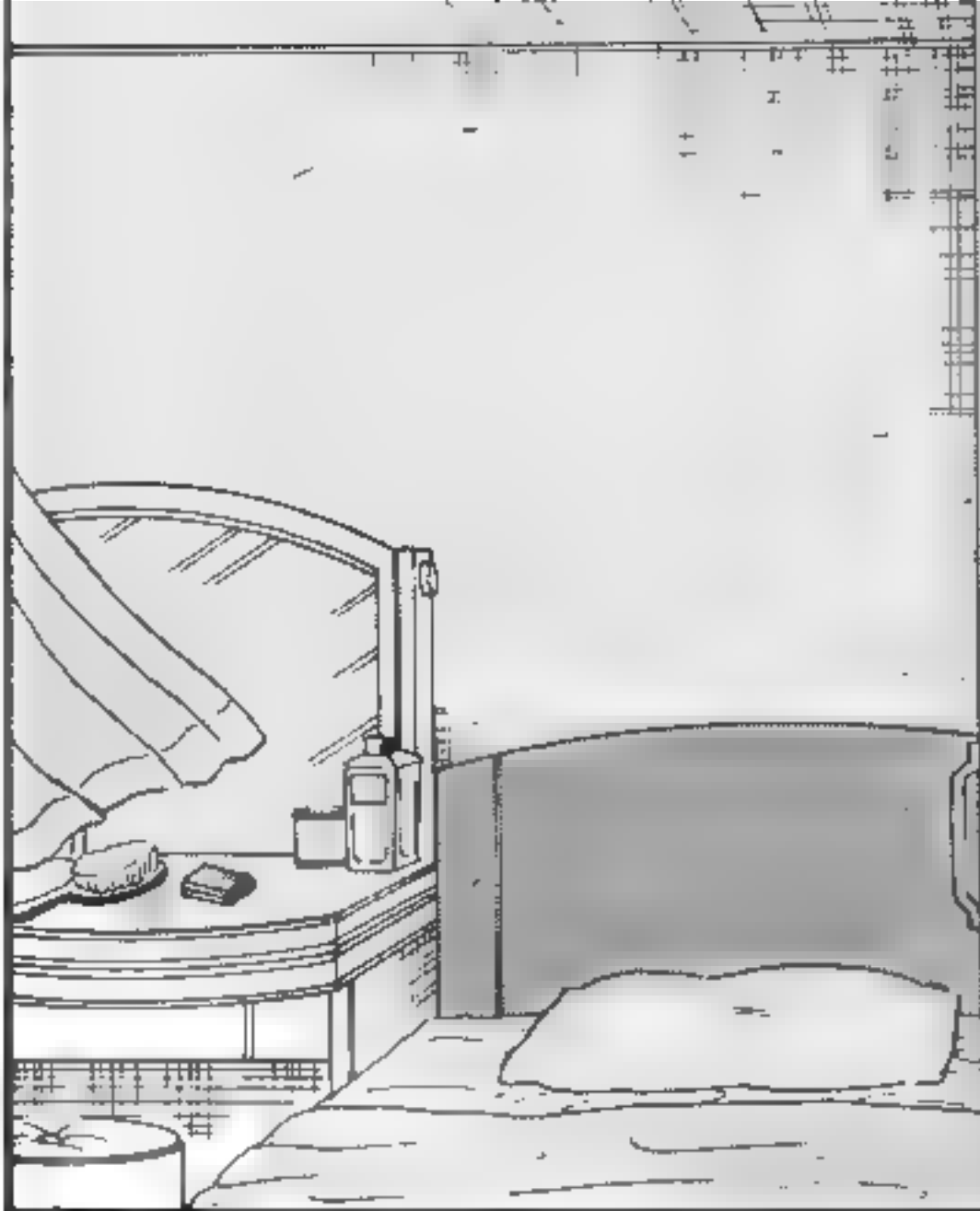












KOWLOON
Generic Romance



CHAPTER 20

Humidity
is low in
general, and
it's shaping
up to be a
refreshing
summer day.

B
U
Z
Z
Z

B
Z
Z

B
U
Z
Z
Z

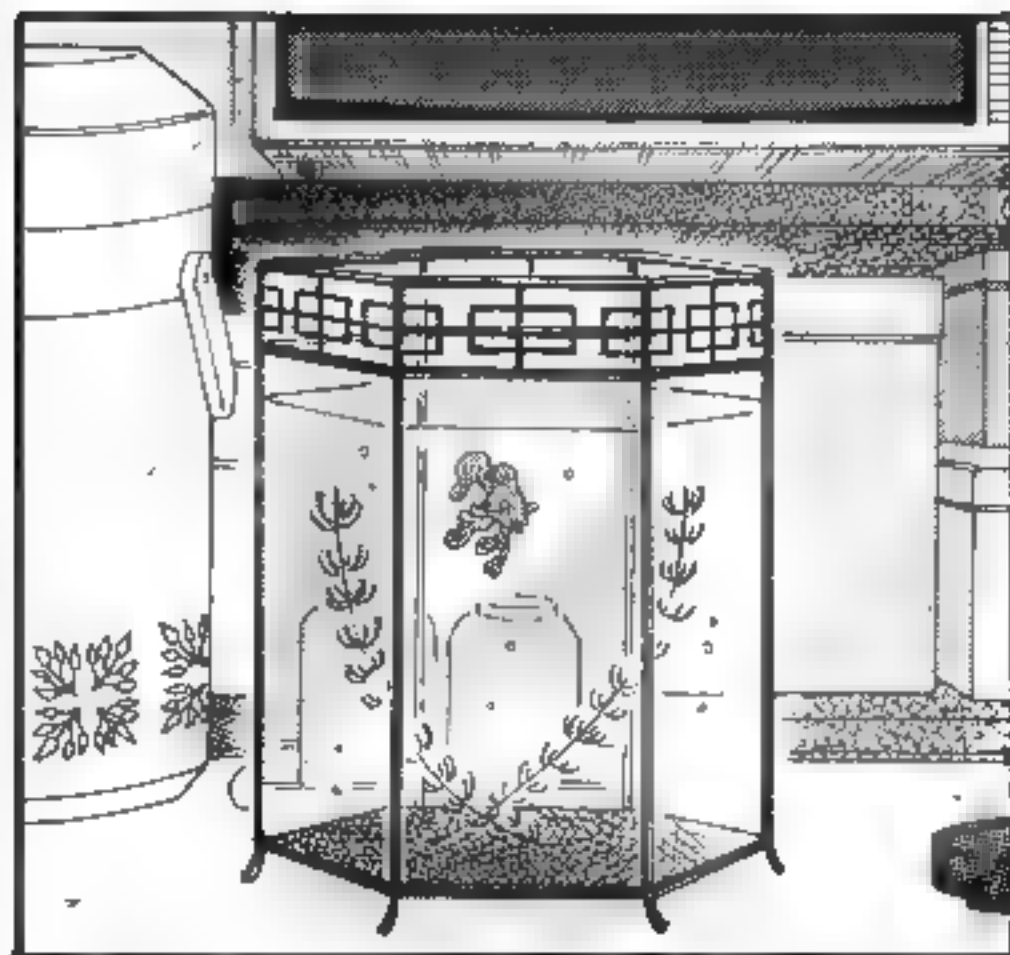
It's a
sunny
day here
in Hong
Kong!

I'M
OFF TO
WORK...

...SUC-
CESS.

...an-
other
lively
day!

Well,
folks,
we
wish
you...

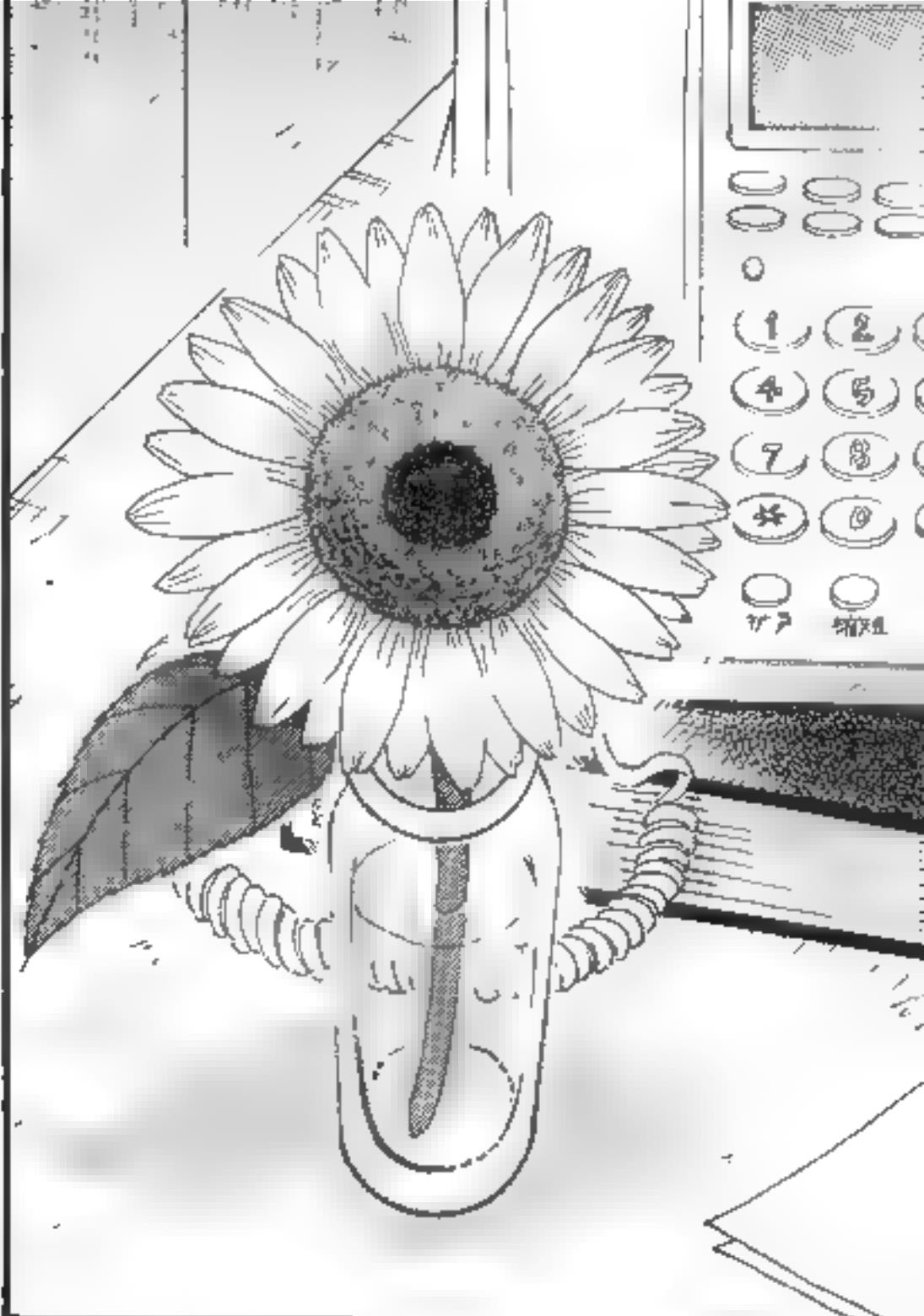




SIGN GOOD LUCK







DID YOU FIND ANY GOOD APARTMENTS ?

KUJI-RAI!

HELLO-OOO!!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.

PLUS, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'LL TRY TO KEEP YOUR DESK TIDY IF THERE'S A FLOWER ON IT?

CREAK
ㄱㄴ

PURSE: DOUBLE HAPPINESS

JUST WHO I WAS WAITING FOR. I'LL CALL AHEAD FOR THE VIEWINGS RIGHT NOW.

CHK
ㄱㄴ

YEAH.

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE, XIAOHEI? YOU MOVIN'?

NO WAY!!

TOO MANY THINGS? THEN DECLUTTER!

THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE. I HAVE MORE THINGS NOW. IT HAS GOTTEN CRAMPED.

HELLO, THIS IS KUJIRAI FROM WONG LOI REALTY COMPANY...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE PLACE YOU HAVE NOW? THE NOISE PROBLEM'S SOLVED, AIN'T IT?

I
REFUSE
TO GET
RID OF
EVEN
ONE
PIECE!!

LOLITA
COLLECTION

XIAO-
HEI

I BROKE
MY BACK
WORKING
TO BUY MY
CURRENT
WARDROBE!!
IT IS
PRECIOUS
TO ME!!

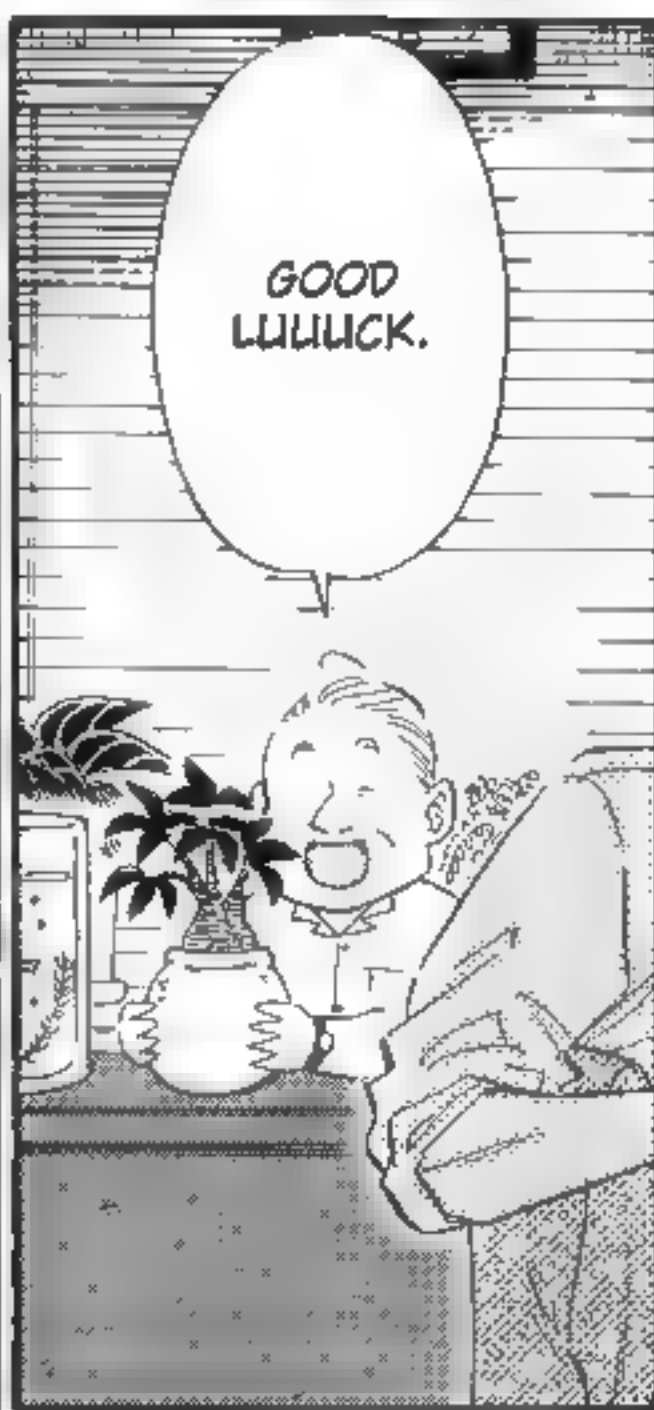
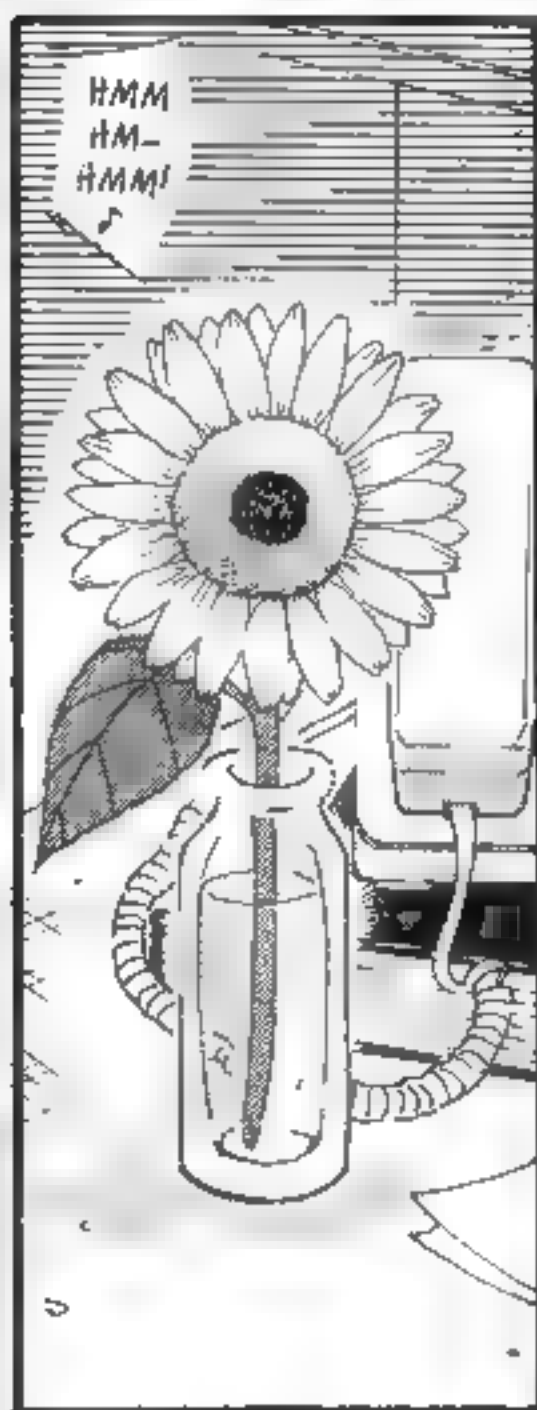
TRUE, YOUR OUTFITS
DO LOOK LIKE
THEY'D TAKE UP A
LOTTA SPACE

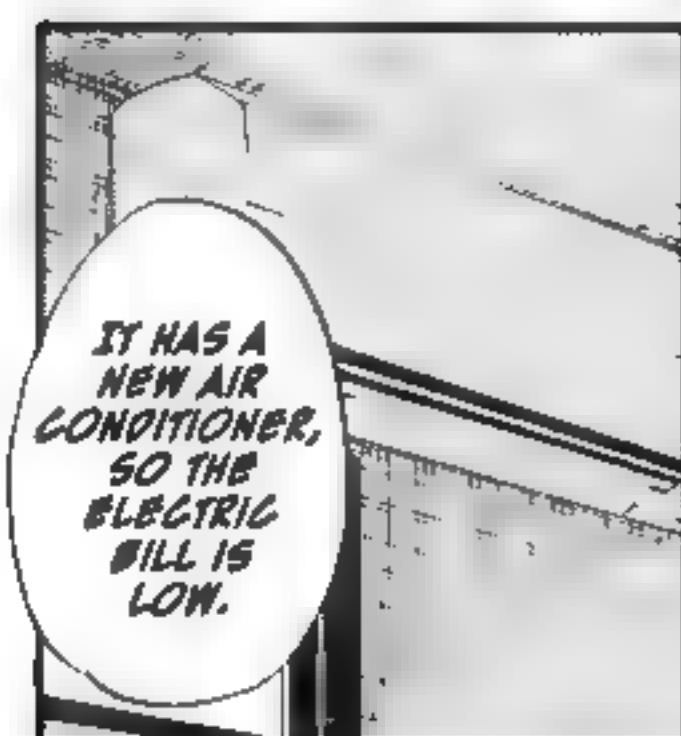
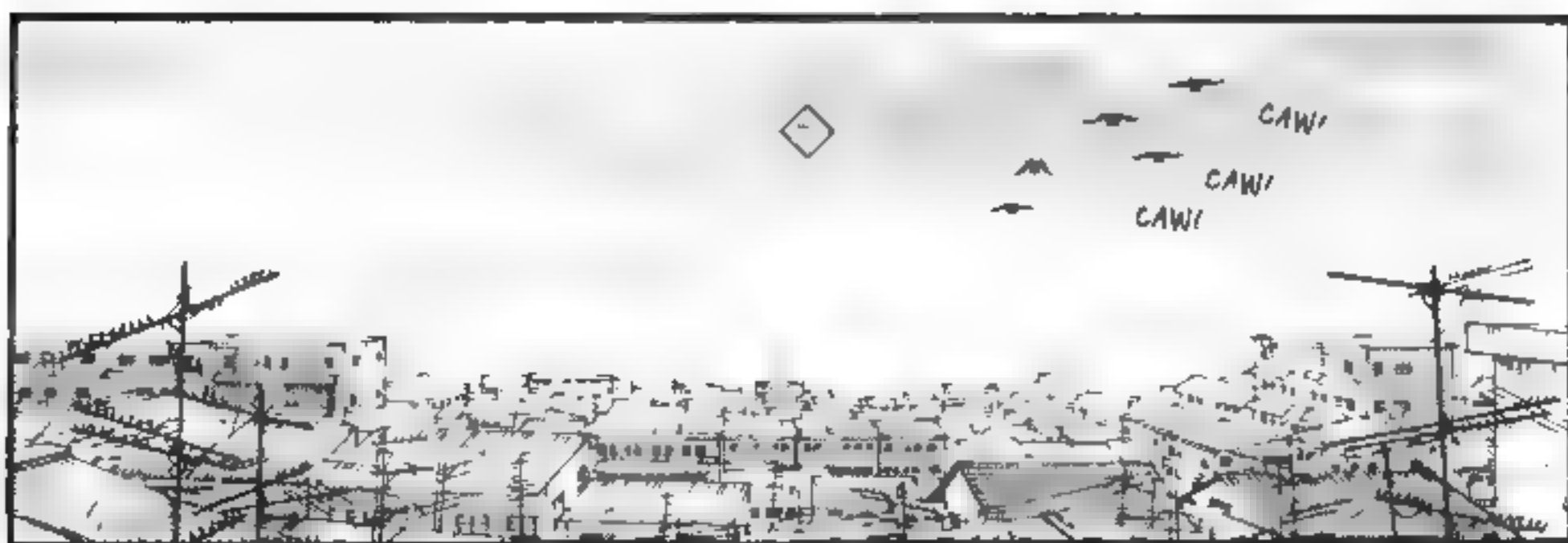
YOU WERE
TALKING
ABOUT
CLOTHES...?

I'LL BE
BACK
LATER.

YEAH!

THEY SAID
WE CAN VIEW
ALL OF THE
APARTMENTS
RIGHT AWAY.
SHALL WE?







WELL SURE,
BUT YOUR
CHOICES ARE
MORE LIMITED
IF WE STICK
TO THE SAFER
AREAS.



BUT THERE
ARE STILL
PLENTY
OF OTHER
PROPERTIES
IN KOWLOON,
AREN'T
THERE!?

WE VIEWED
SEVEN
APARTMENTS.
PERSONALLY,
I THINK THEY
WERE
ALL PRETTY
GOOD...

DON'T
SOUND SO
SURPRISED.

**W
H
A
A
A
T
!?**

NO
WAY...

HUH?

XIAOHEI,
HAVE YOU
CONSIDERED
LEAVING
KOWLOON? FOR
ELSEWHERE IN
HONG KONG,
MAYBE?

I DO
NOT WANT
TO LEAVE
KOWLOON. I
THOUGHT SO
BACK THEN
TOO.

IT'D BE
OUTSIDE OF
THE AREA
OUR OFFICE
HANDLES,
BUT

AS A
JOB-HOPPER,
YOU AREN'T
TIED DOWN
ANYWHERE. I
THINK IT WOULD
BE EASIER TO
BROADEN YOUR
OPTIONS
THAT WAY.



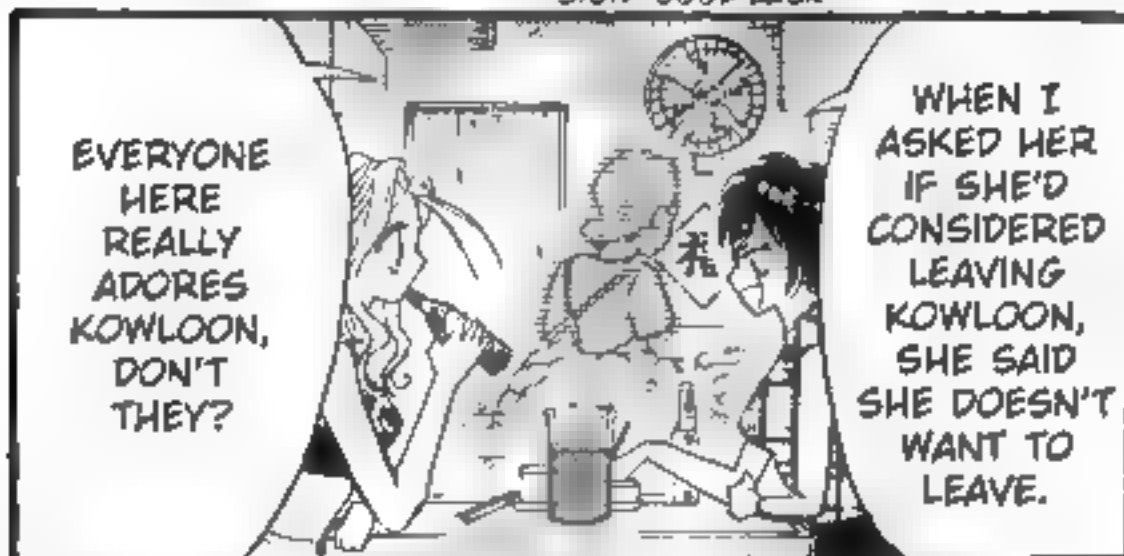




LANTERNS: GOOD LUCK



SIGN: GOOD LUCK



EVERYONE
HERE
REALLY
ADORES
KOWLOON,
DON'T
THEY?

WHEN I
ASKED HER
IF SHE'D
CONSIDERED
LEAVING
KOWLOON,
SHE SAID
SHE DOESN'T
WANT TO
LEAVE.



WELL, IT
DOES HAVE
A STRANGE
CHARM TO
IT...



I WONDER
IF SHE'LL
LEAVE OUR
NEIGHBOR-
HOOD.

I'LL
MISS
HER!

OH YEAH?
XIAOHEI'S
LOOKING
FOR A NEW
PLACE?

WHAAAT!?
WHY!?
SPILL!!

HE CAME TO
MY PLACE
YESTERDAY.

ANYWAY!
HOW ARE
THINGS
GOING WITH
YOUR MR.
KUDOU
LATELY?



THERE
ISN'T
MUCH TO
SAY...

S...
SUCCESS
...

IT'S THE
NAME OF
MY PET
GOLDFISH.

THESE
CENTURY
EGGS ARE
GOOD

S...
SUCCESS
?

HE
CARRIED
SUCCESS'S
TANK FOR
ME.

DID
YOU FEEL
ANYTHING,
REKO-
PON?

...I BET IT
WASN'T HIS
FIRST TIME
INSIDE YOUR
APARTMENT.

YOU
KNOW...

BUT
ENOUGH
ABOUT
THE
GOLD-
FISH.



WHY, IT'S
POSSIBLE
THOSE
MEMORIES
NEVER
EXISTED TO
BEGIN WITH.

THE LOST
MEMORIES
OF A WOMAN
WHOSE
WRINKLES
HAVE NO
HISTORY...



?

ALSO,
THOSE
SKEWERS
AND

...NO, NOT IN
PARTICULAR.
NOT TO
MENTION...

SIGNS: FRIED PORK INTESTINE



REKO-
PON?



JUST SO YOU
KNOW, I HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN
THAT IT'S YOUR
FAULT I DIDN'T
GET TO HAVE MY
CONSULTATION
WITH DOCTOR
HEBINUMA...



HUH?

THE
CONSUL-
TATION.

THE OTHER
DAY, WHEN
I HAD THAT
CONSULTATION
AT HEBINUMA
MEDICAL
CENTER—



...WHAT'S SO BOLD ABOUT PUTTING A FLOWER ON HIS DESK?

CHATTER CHATTER
TASTY FOOD
好食

CHATTER CHATTER
TASTY FOOD

I'LL BRING YOU ONE NEXT TIME TOO!
THEY'RE CUTE!
EH?

I-I PUT A SUNFLOWER ON MR. KUDOU'S DESK TODAY.

BETTER CHANGE THE SUBJECT!



WAY TO BE BOLD, GIRL!!

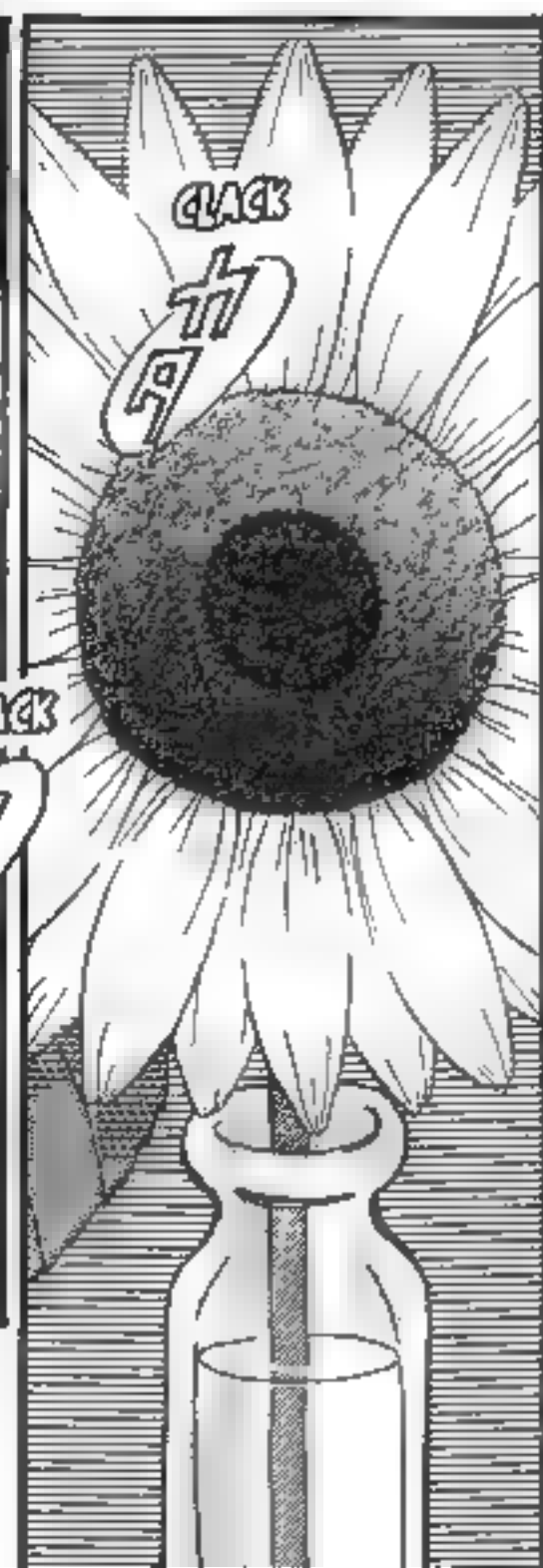
OMI-GAWD, REKO-PON!



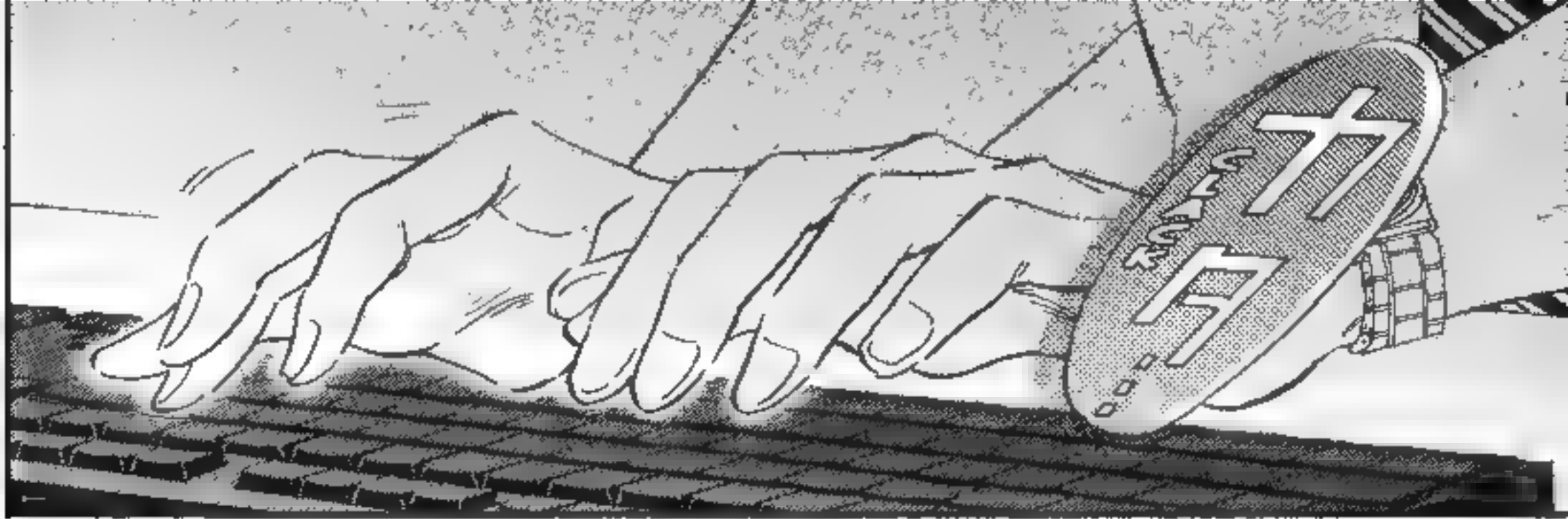
WHAT THEY MEAN?

DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT SUN-FLOWERS MEAN!?

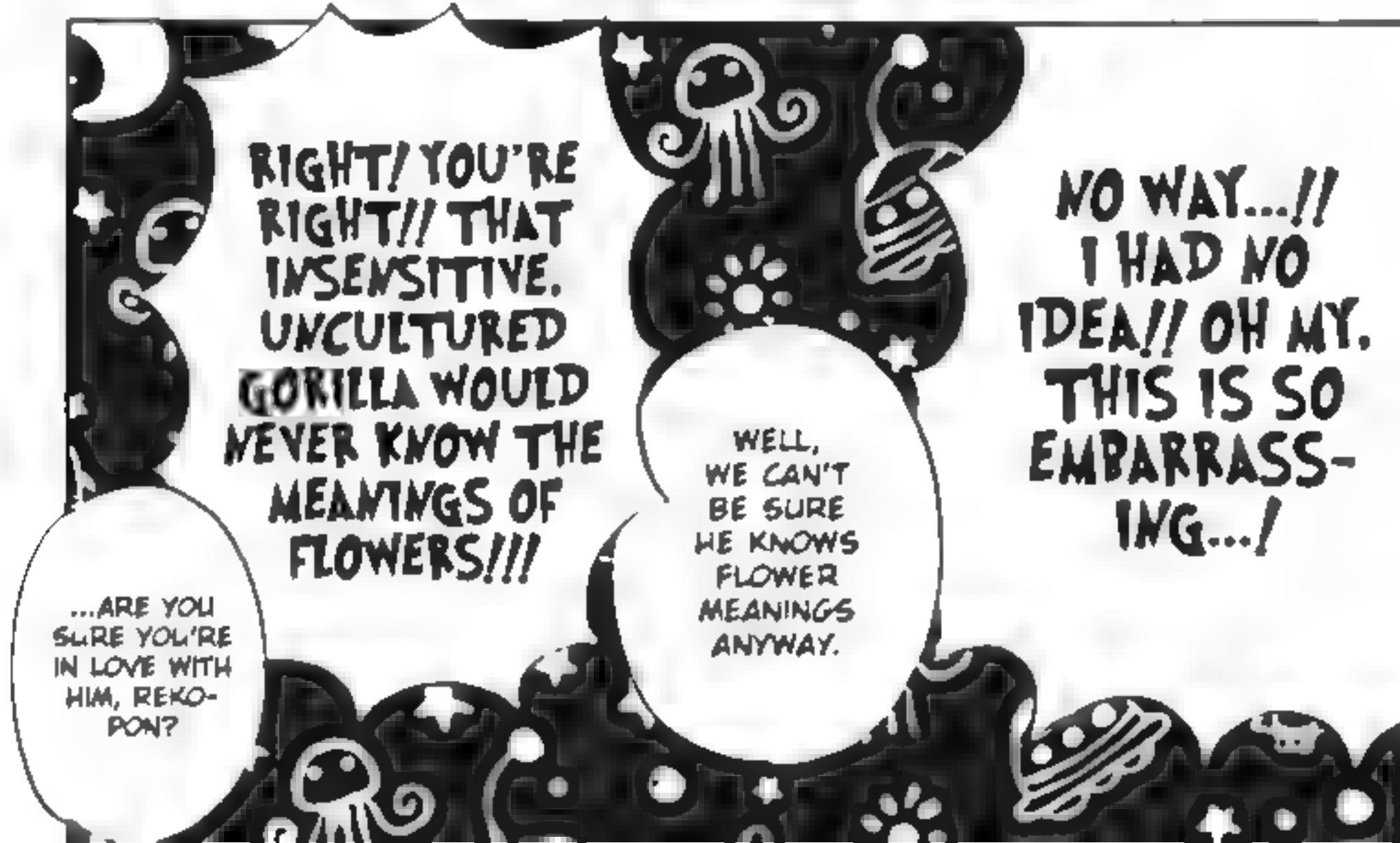
NOT THAT PART!



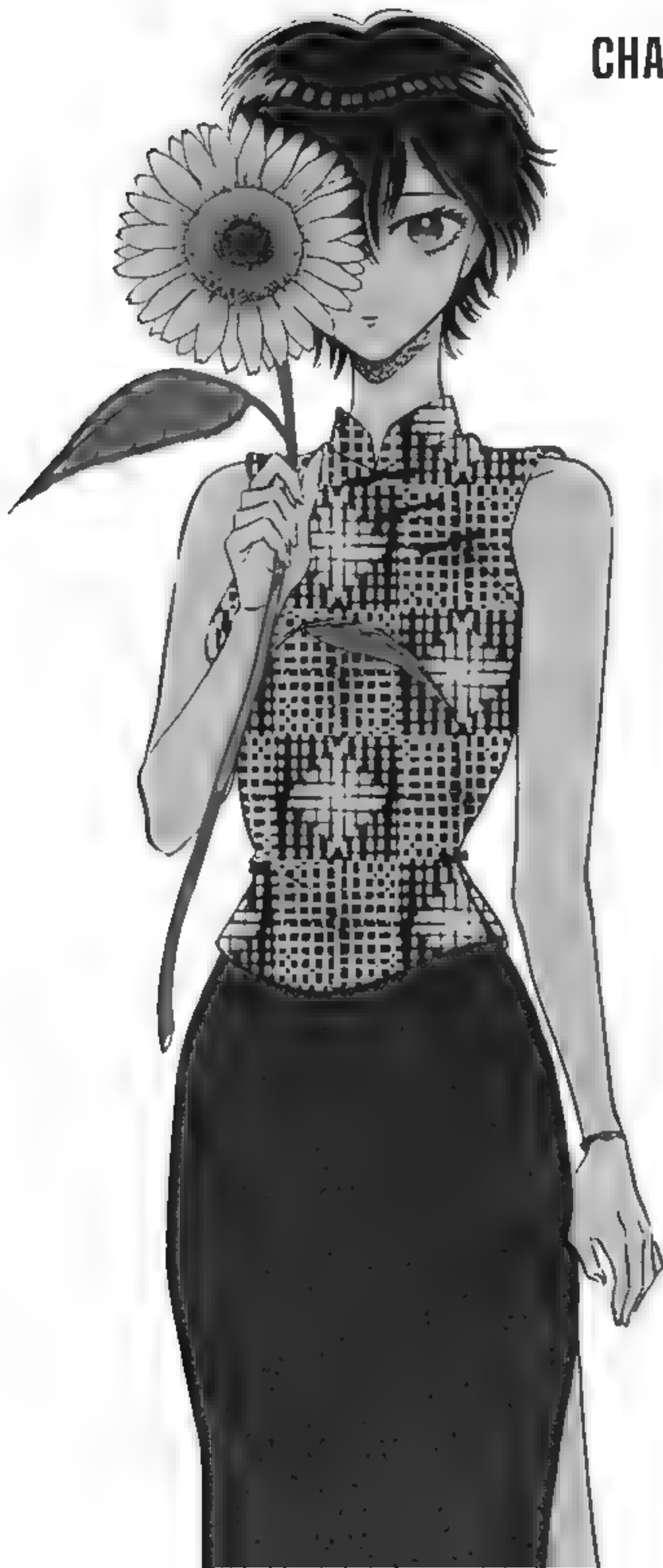


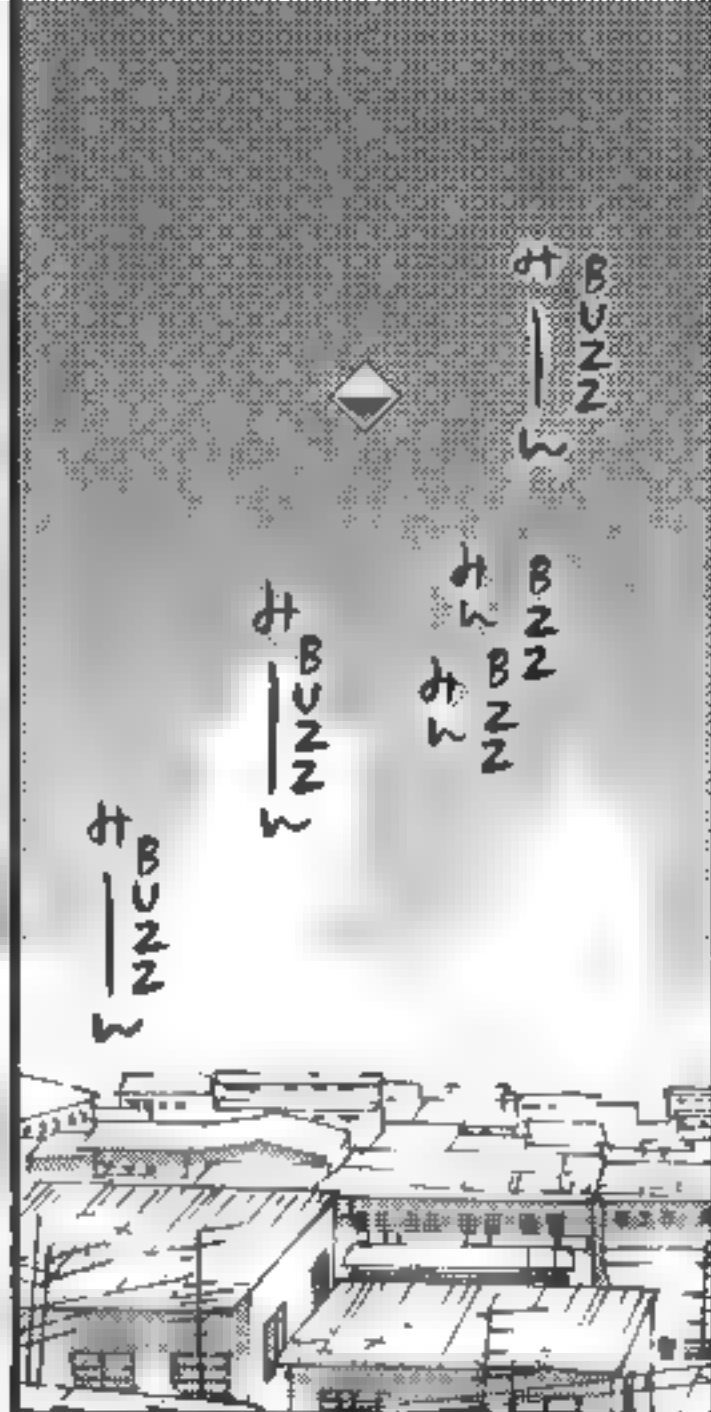
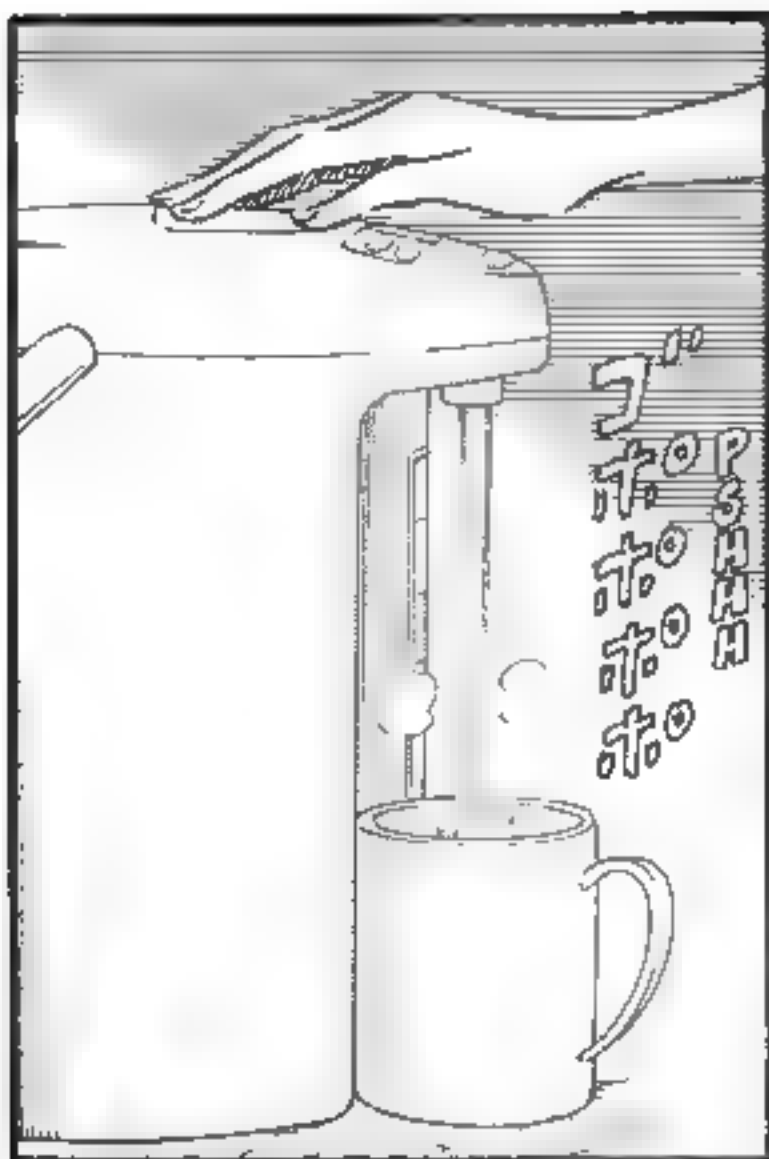


CHAPTER 21



CHAPTER 21







HUH?

WH-WHY
ARE YOU
HOLDING
THAT SUN-
FLOWER...!?



I'M
CHANGIN'
ITS
WATER...

WHY
ELSE
...?

///
FISHH



NO,
SERIOUSLY,
WHAT'S UP
WITH THE
SHRIEKING!?

GYAH!



I CAN'T
LET IT
WITHER
UP, CAN
I?

///
FISHH

AH!
KUJIRAI, I'D LIKE
SOME TEA
TOOOO!

?

I
COULDN'T
HELP
THINKING
HE WAS
KINDA
CUTE...

YOU
ARE SO
NOT
FAIR
...!!

WANG LIAO RENLUN STUDIO
日子要过得快

SUNFLOWERS
MEAN "I
ONLY HAVE
EYES FOR
YOU."

THANK
YOU!!!

YES, SIR.
I'LL MAKE
YOU A
CUP. IT'S
INSTANT,
THOUGH.

AH! I
REMEM-
BER
NOW!

LET'S
SEE,
WHAT
WAS
IT...

OOH,
A SUN-
FLOWER!
HOW
CUTE.



...SO
IT'S THE
PERFECT
MEANING
FOR 'EM,
DON'T YOU
THINK?

HUH? I ONLY
MEANT THAT
SUNFLOWERS
DO FEEL
LIKE THEY'RE
STARIN' AT
YA...

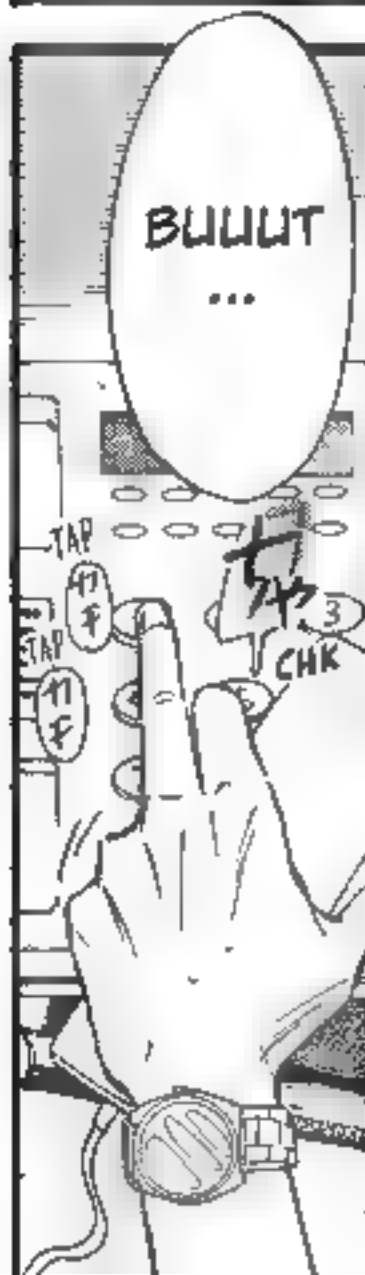
GULP

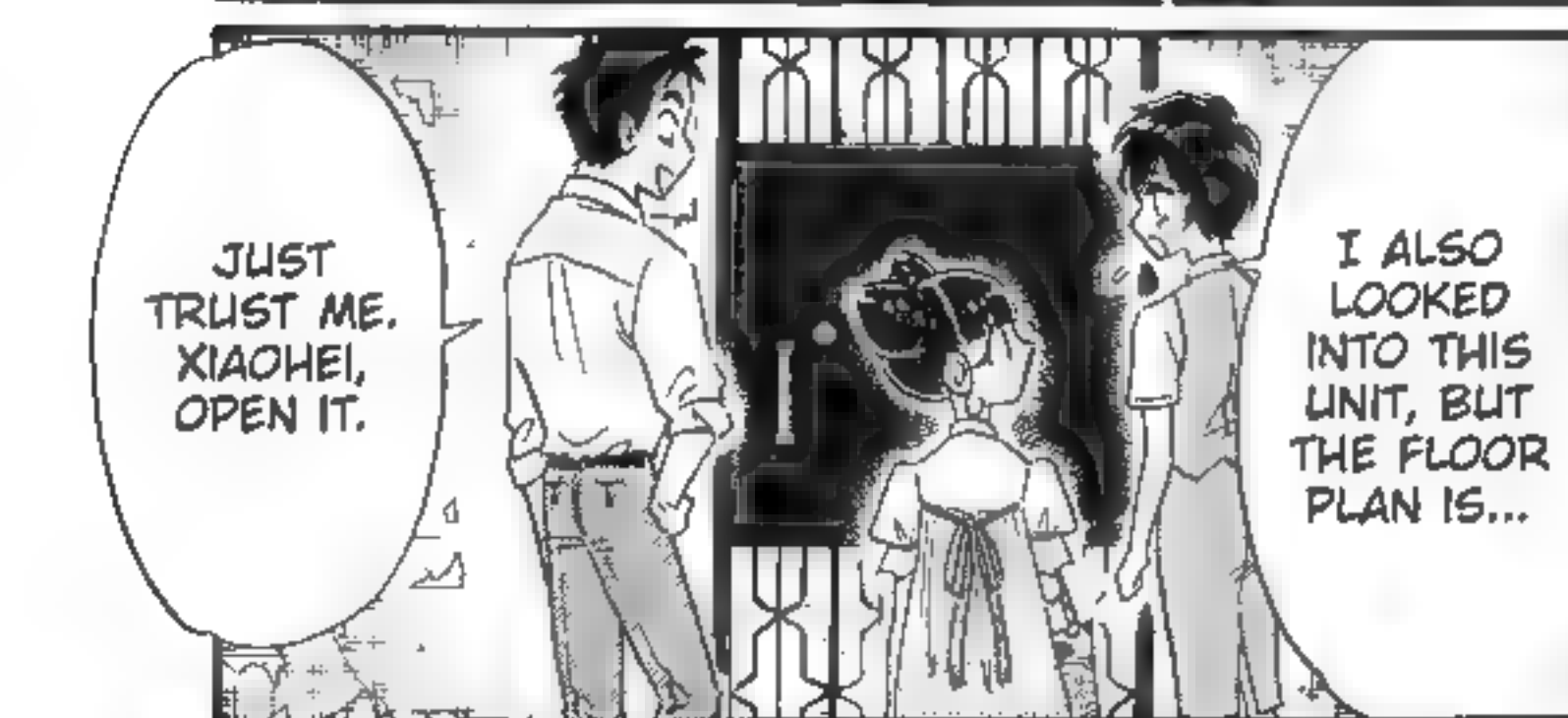
I DIDN'T
KNOW
THAT
WHEN I
BROUGHT
IT!!

...AHA.
I GET IT
NOW.

HEH!

NOW I
REALLY
CAN'T LET
IT WITHER
UP.





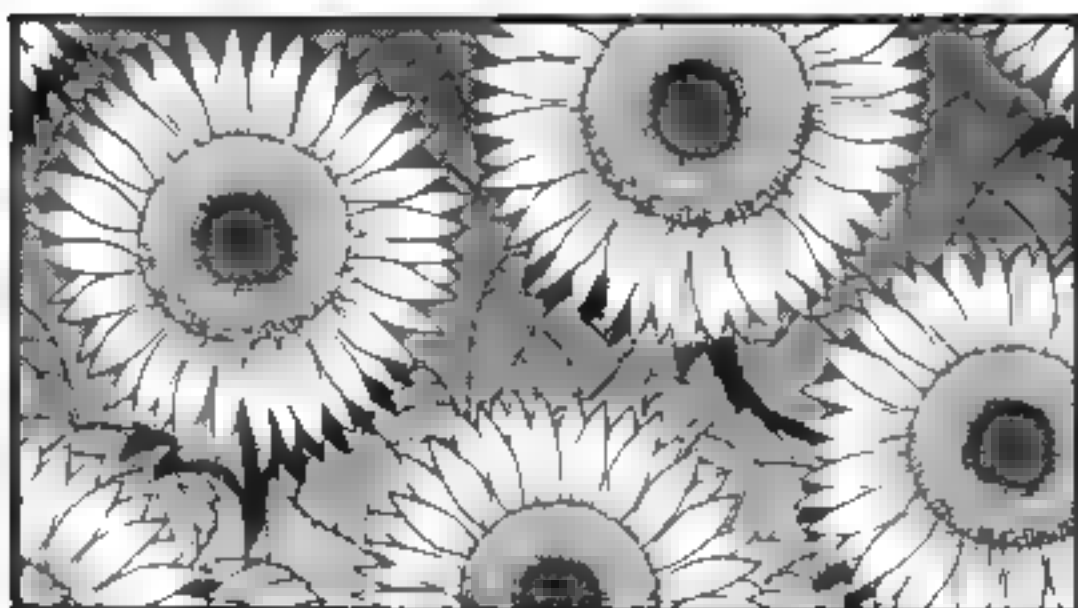












THEY
ARE ALL
LOOKING
AT US!

WOW...! A
BUNCH OF
SEEDS MUST'VE
FALLEN FROM
SOMEWHERE
TO MAKE THIS
MANY GROW IN
ONE SPOT.





A black and white illustration of a vast field of sunflowers. The sunflowers are densely packed, filling the entire frame. In the center-right of the image, a small, dark, stylized figure is visible, possibly a person or a creature, looking up or down. The figure is partially obscured by the sunflowers.

*...WHOSE
GAZE...*

*...CAUGHT
MR.
KIDOU'S
EYE?*



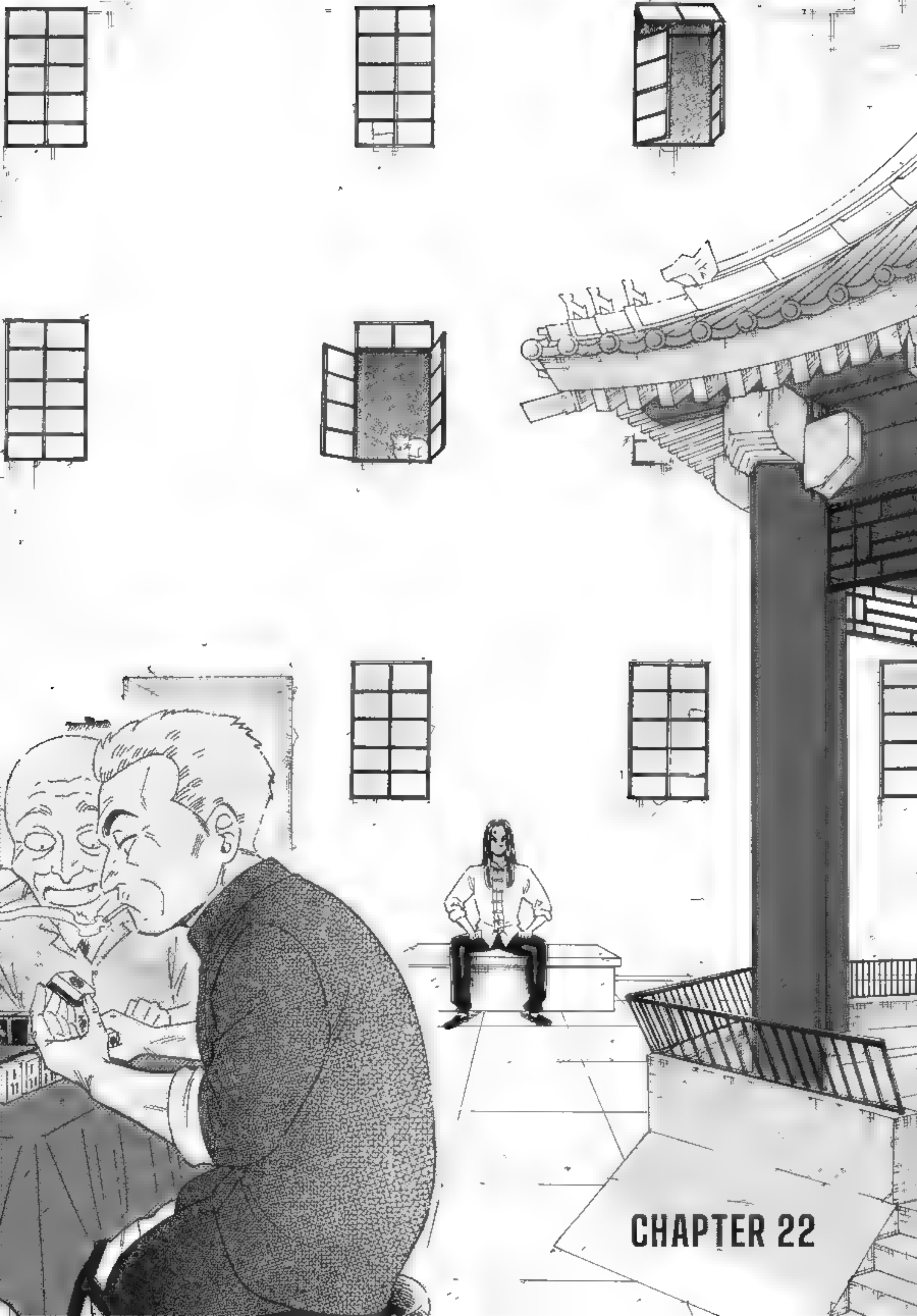
Good Luck

In Chinese culture, the "good luck" symbol is commonly seen at Chinese New Year and at the entrances of homes all year-round. In the latter cases, it is often hung upside down (as seen above) because the character for "upside down" is a homonym of the character for "to arrive." Thus, placing it on your front door is inviting luck into your home.

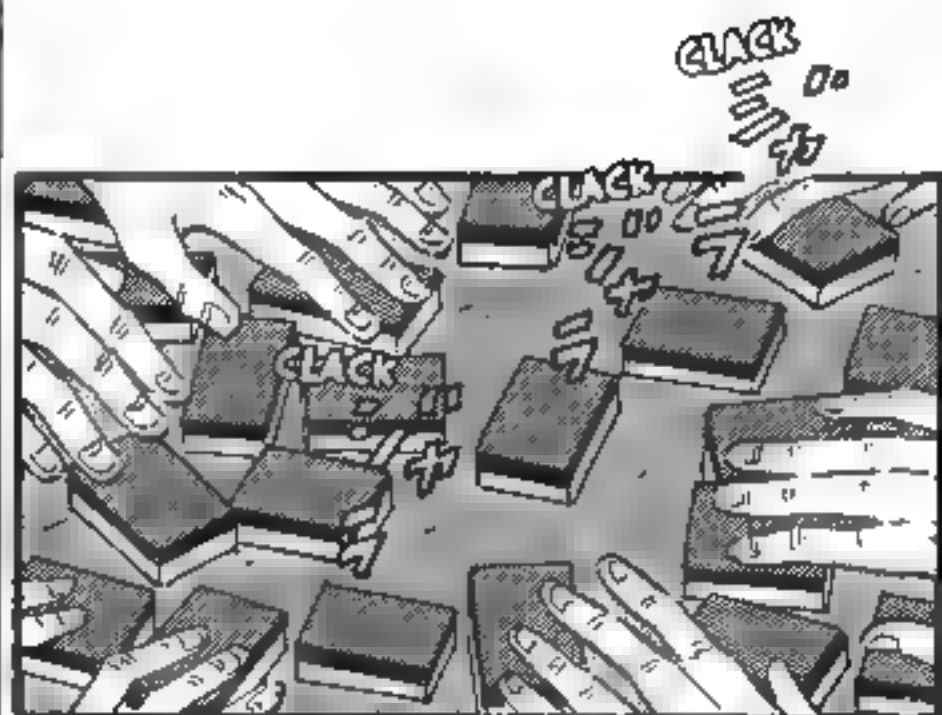


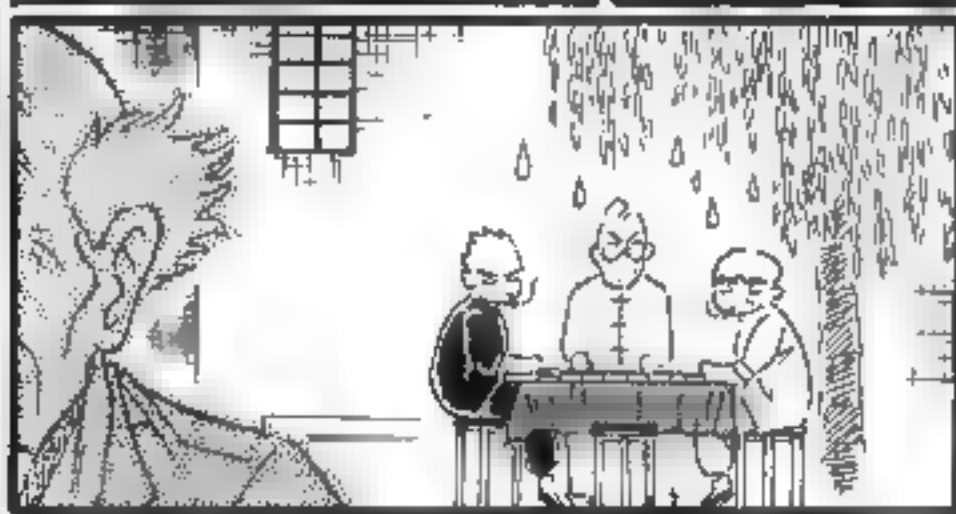
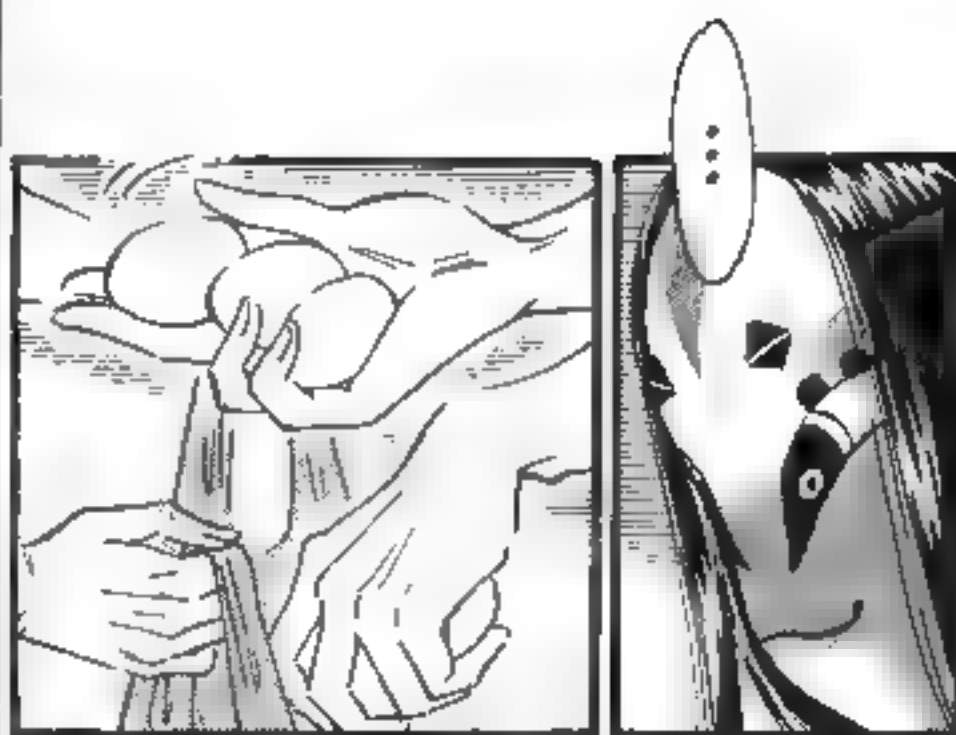
Double Happiness

This symbol, created by taking the Chinese character for happiness (喜) and doubling it, represents joy and unity in Chinese culture, and is often associated with marriage.



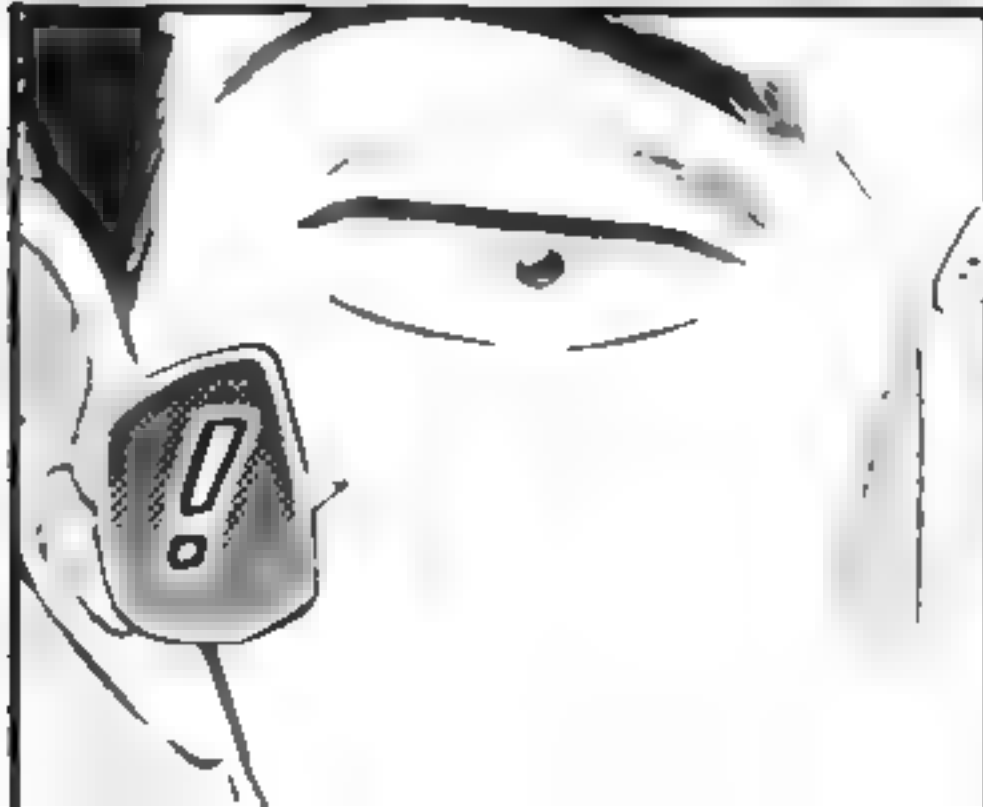
CHAPTER 22







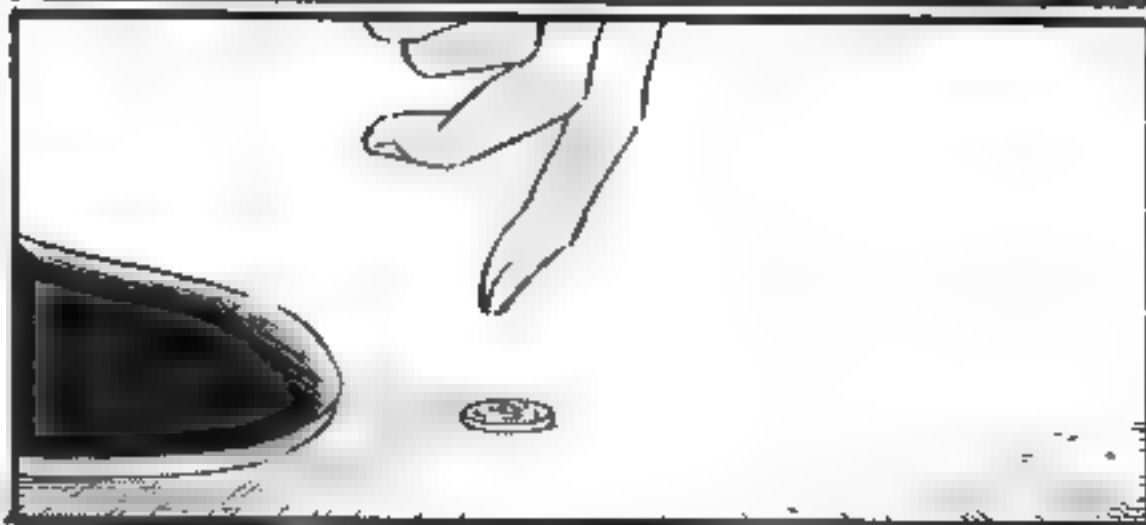
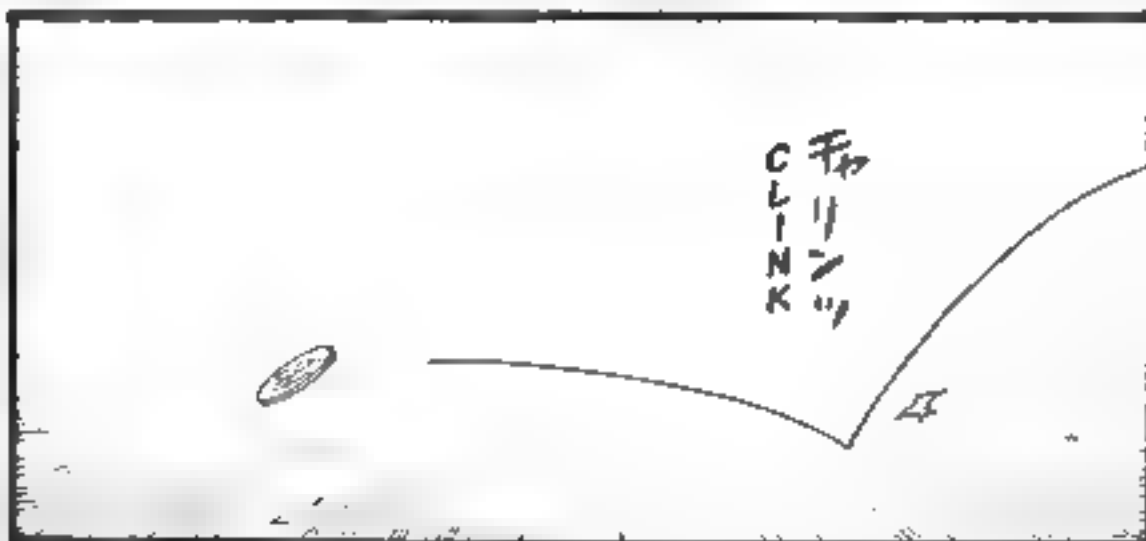
210 4 11 14 210 4 11 14 210 4 11 14

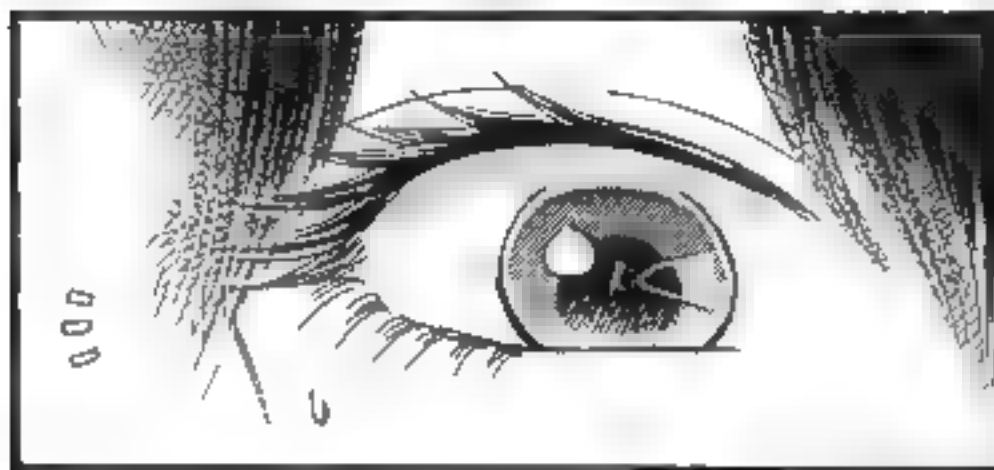




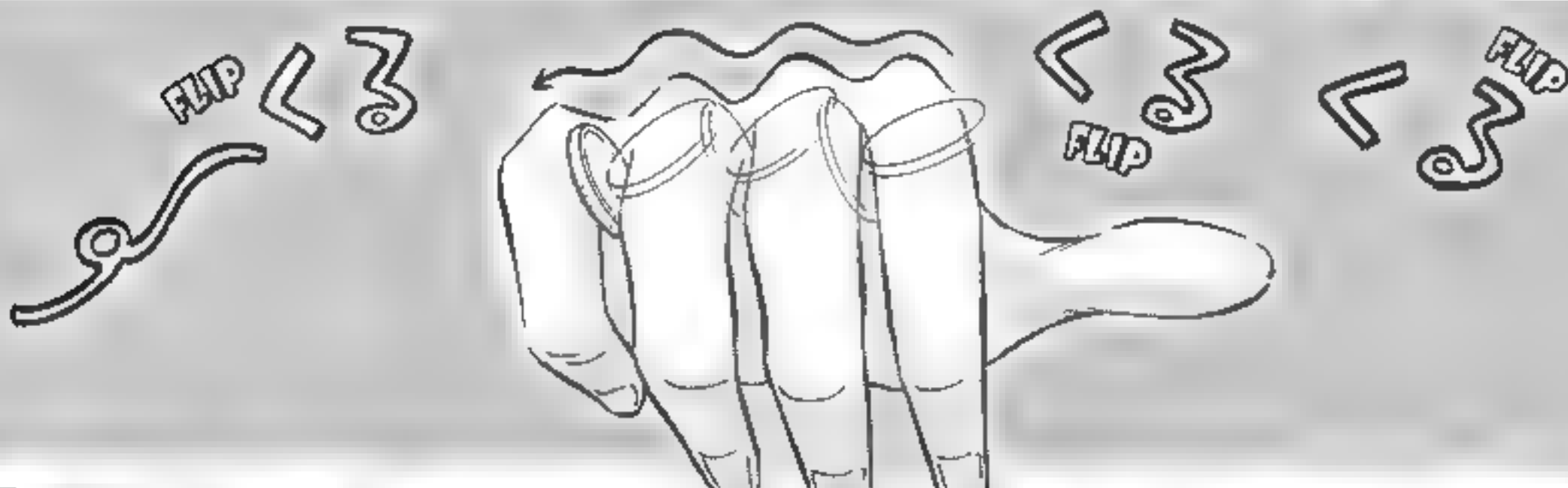


SIGN: BEEFSTEAK





SIGNS. ETERNAL LUCK RESTAURANT / SIX VIRTUES -- / BLACK DRAGON --





THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

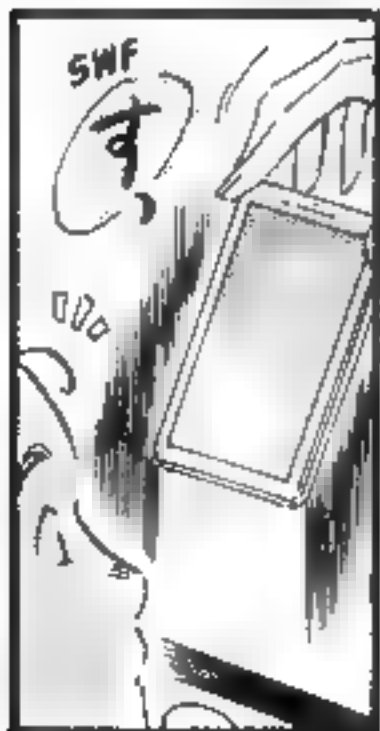
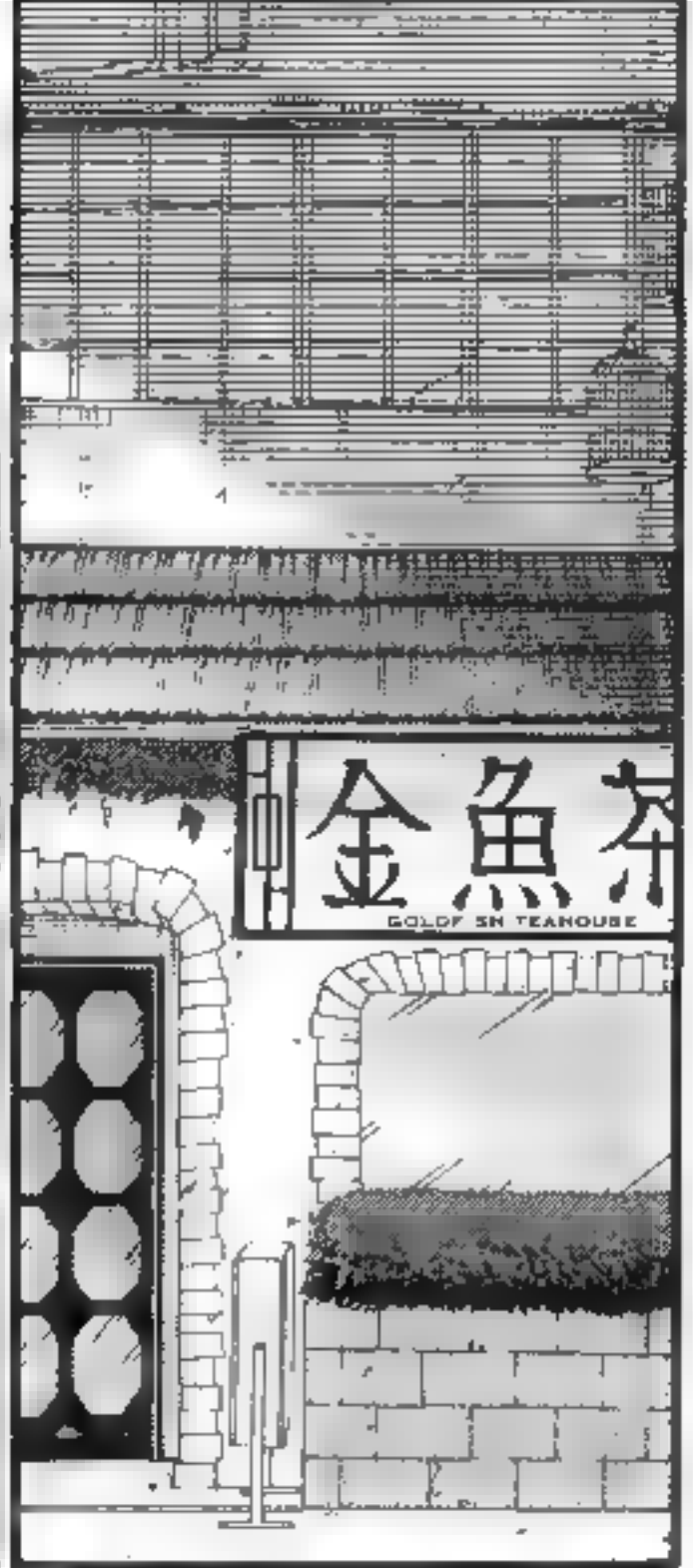




SIGNS (ABOVE): ETERNAL LUCK RESTAURANT / SIX VIRTUES — / TARO CAKE / MALAY SPONGE CAKE



SIGNS (LEFT): RESTAURANT / BEEFSTEAK / KOWLOON DEPARTMENT STORE





THAT'S
THE LAST
PERSON
WHO HAD
MY JOB. A
REGULAR
ASKED ME
ABOUT HIM
TOO...



I
BELIEVE
HE
WORKED
HERE.



I
SEE.

...BUT
I DON'T
KNOW
ANY-
THING.



THANKS.

NAH,
NO
NEED.

AH, CAN
I TAKE
YOUR
ORDER?



THIS
WHOLE-
SALER
SUPPLIED
THEM,
RIGHT?

THAT'S
RIGHT,
GWEN! FROM
GOLDFISH
TEAHOUSE!



G
W
E
E
N
?

H
U
U
U
H
?





YOU'RE A
REALTOR,
AIN'T YA?

WHY DON'T
YOU TRY
ASKING HIS
NEIGHBORS?



COULDN'T
TELL YA. I
ONLY FOUND
OUT MYSELF
WHEN THE
NEW GUY
STARTED
DOING THEIR
ORDERS.

I KNOW, THAT'S
THE PROBLEM!
HAVE YOU HEARD
ANYTHING? LIKE,
WHERE HE WENT
NEXT...?

SURE,
BUT I
THOUGHT
GWEN
QUIT.



WAS THIS
AREA
REZONED OR
SOMETHING?

WHAT
THE
HECK!?

...I WOULD,
BUT I
CAN'T FIND
MY WAY
TO HIS
PLACE...



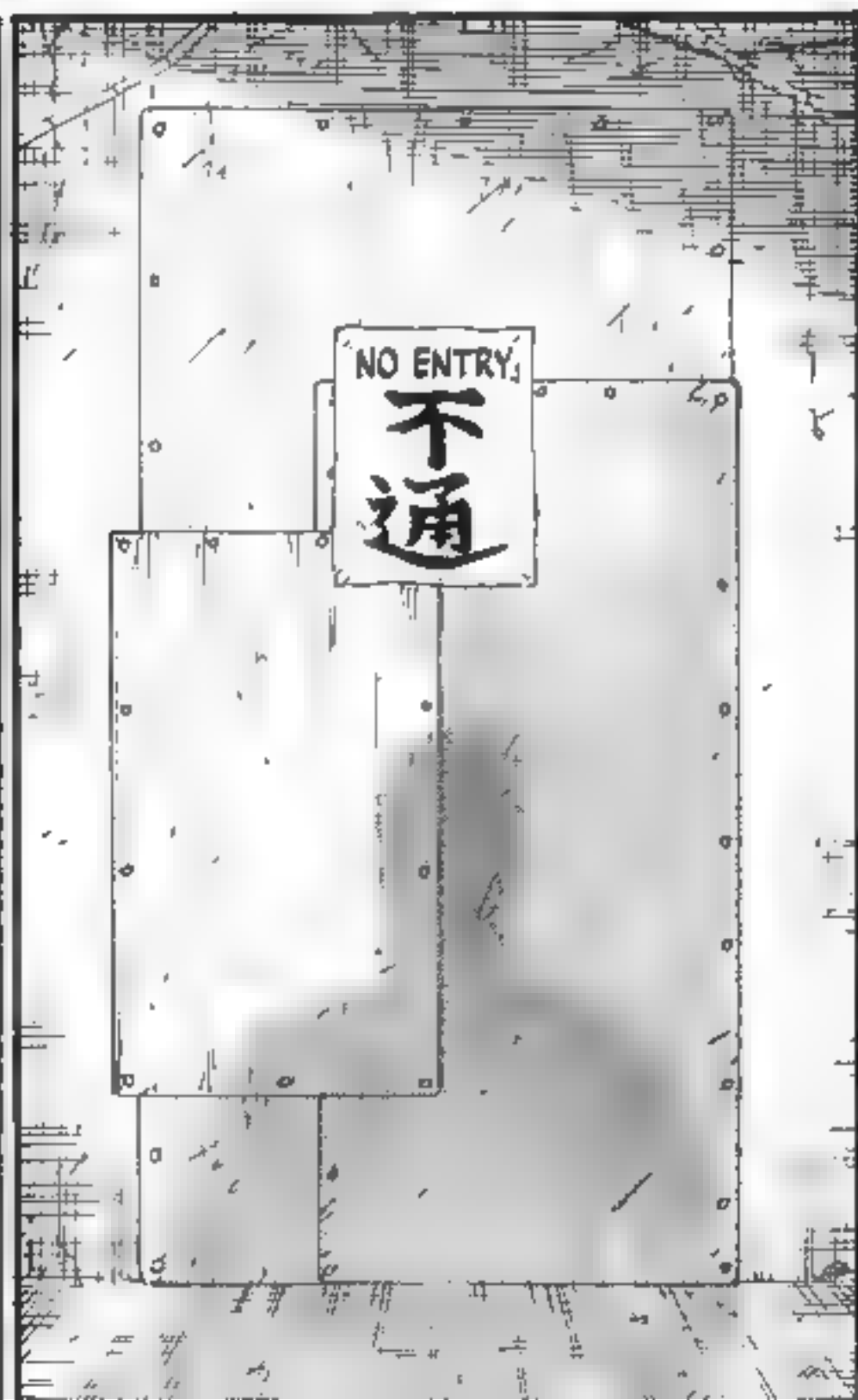
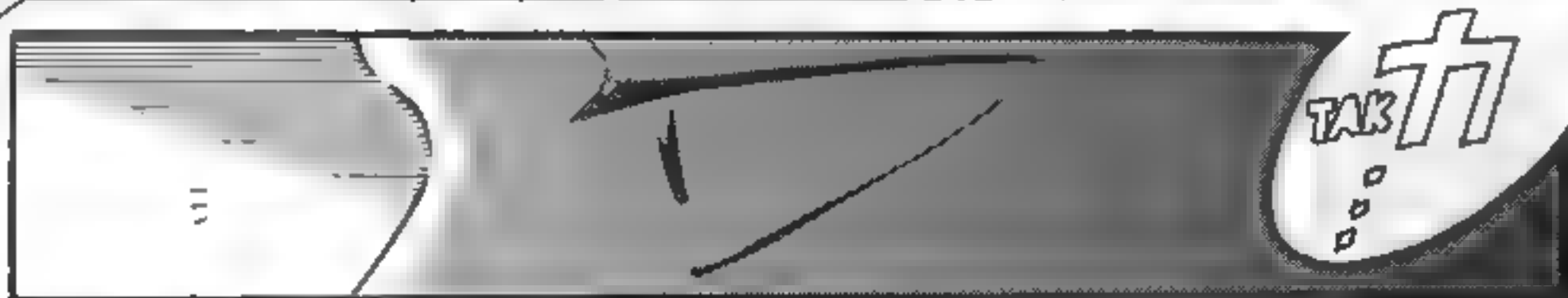
THAT'S
WHY WHEN
ONE OF US
VANISHES
INTO THIN
AIR...

...IT HARDLY
SEEMS
STRANGE.



WELL,
KOWLOON'S
CHOCK-FULL
OF FOLKS
WITH SPECIAL
CIRCUM-
STANCES.

WE'VE ALL
GOT A SECRET
OR TWO, EVEN
FROM THOSE
WE'RE CLOSE
WITH.





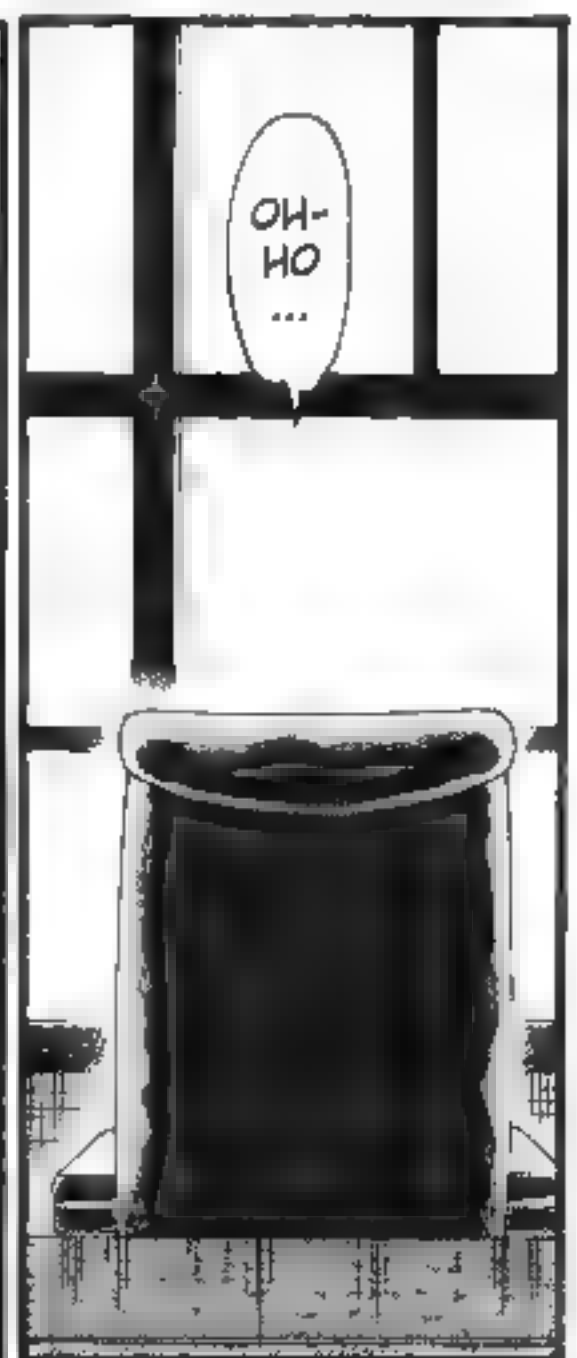
IT WAS
REALLY
HER.

BOY,
WAS I
SUR-
PRISED.



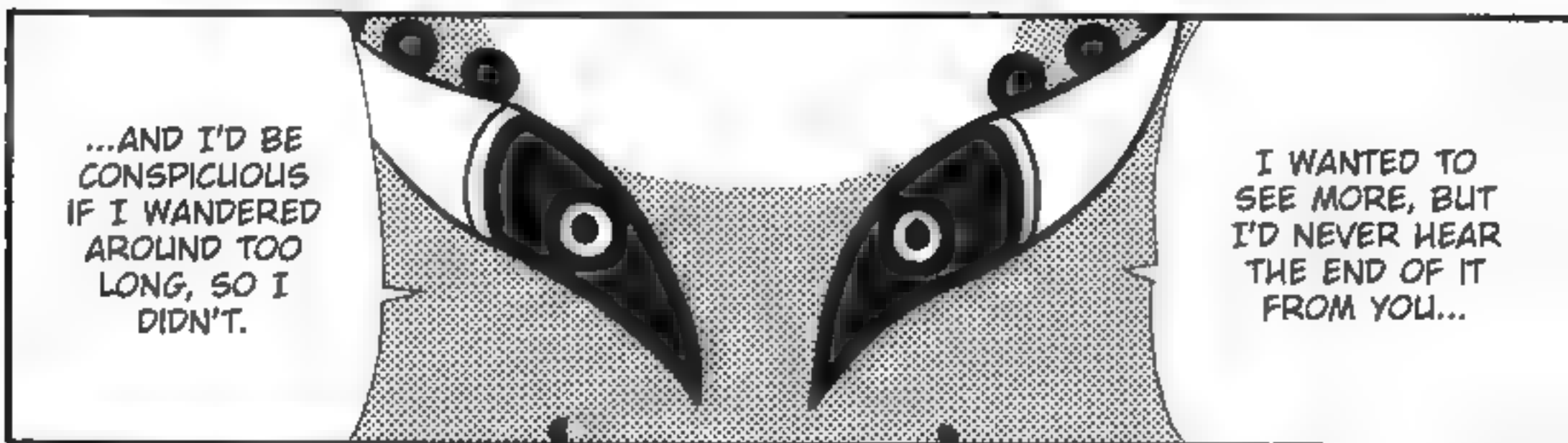
CREAK

THAT IS
MARVEL-
OUS.



OH-
HO
...







SOMETHING
AIN'T
RIGHT...

...IN THIS
KOWLOON.



AFTER
ALL, YOU
KNOW THE
SUPER-
STITION,
RIGHT?

THAT IF YOU
MEET YOUR
DOPPELGÄNGER,
YOU'LL LOSE
YOUR LIFE.



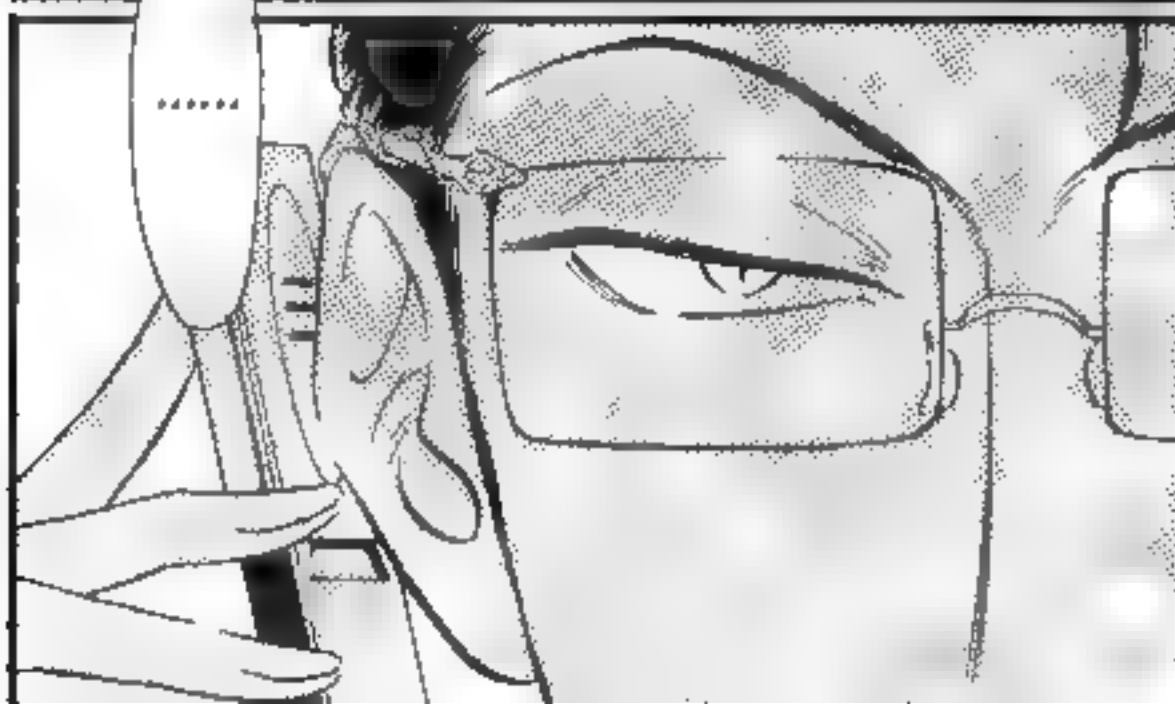


KOWLOON
Generic Romance

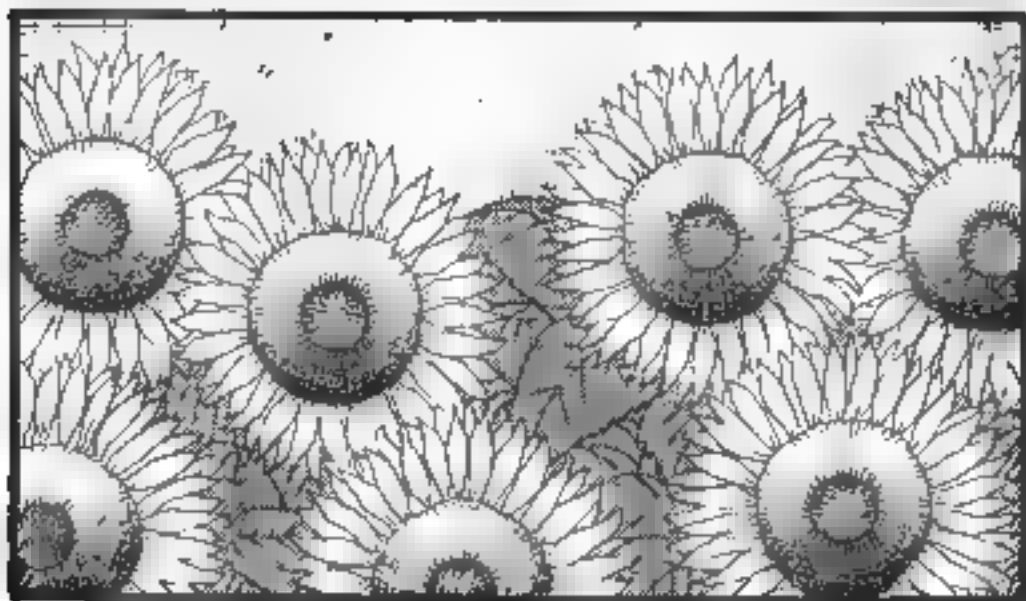
HOWLON
Generic Romance

CHAPTER 23



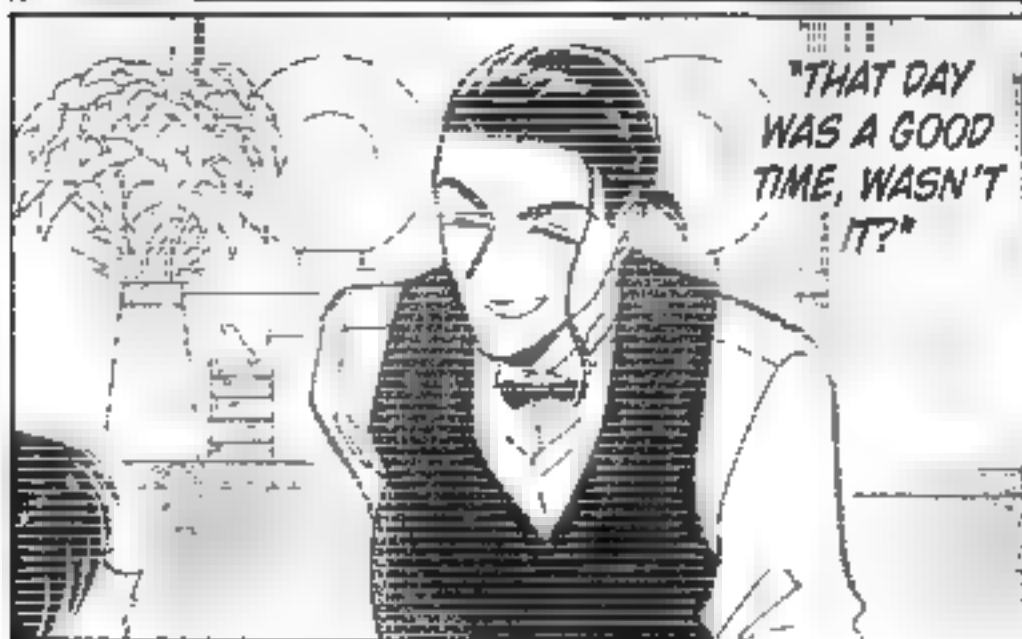








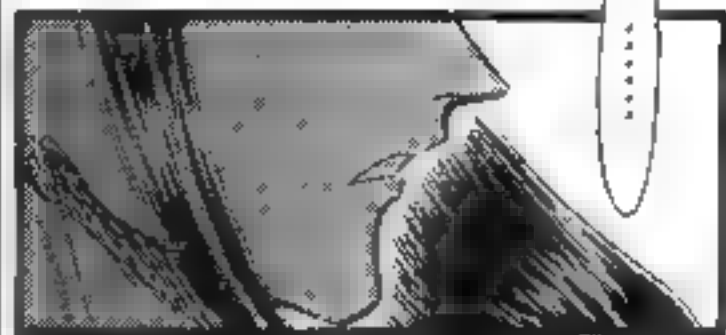






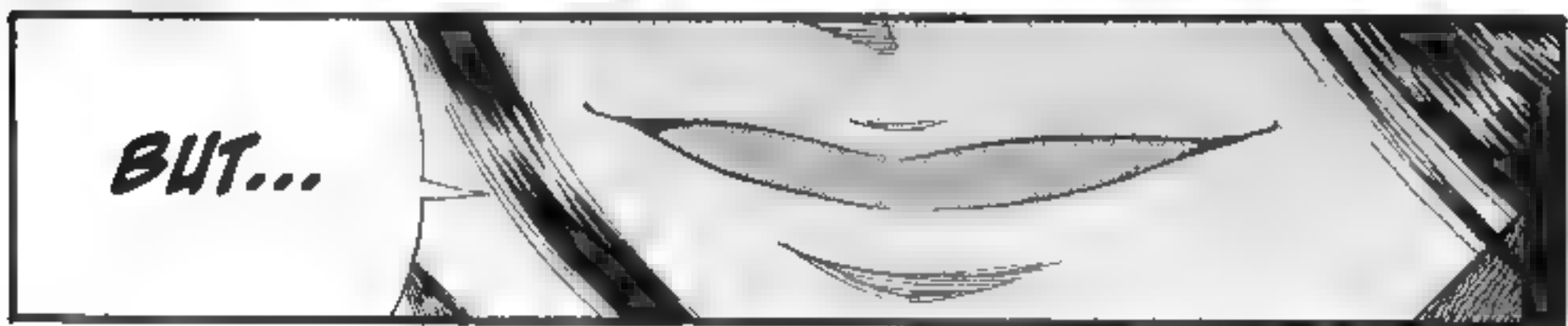
NATURALLY,
THAT
INCLUDES HER
RELATIONSHIP
WITH MR.
KUDOU.

I'VE KNOWN
MS. REIKO
KUJIRAI QUITE
WELL FOR
SOME TIME.



!

I DO
KNOW.



BUT...



...I
DON'T
KNOW
YOU.



**THE REIKO
KUJIRAI I
KNOW...**



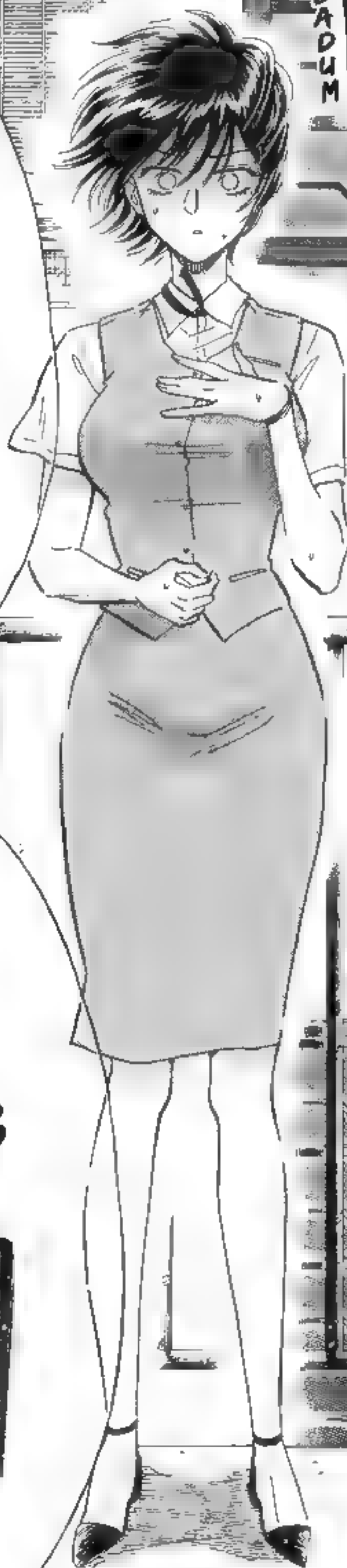
**...IS NO
LONGER
IN THIS
WORLD.**



**...TOOK MY
PRECIOUS
MEMORIES
OF MY
FRIEND...**

**I FEEL
LIKE SOME
STRANGER
FROM WHO
KNOWS
WHERE...**

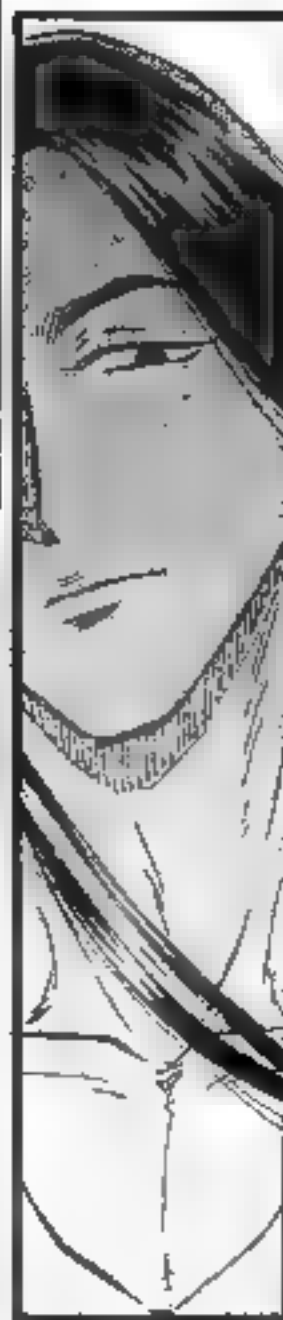
**...AND IS
TRAMPLING
ALL OVER
THEM IN
MUDDY
SHOES.**





OF COURSE,
YOU'VE BEEN
LIVING SOMEONE
ELSE'S LIFE,
ALL THE WHILE
BELIEVING IT
WAS YOURS.

SO I
DO FEEL
SORRY
FOR YOU...



MS.
MYSTERY
REIKO
KUJIRAI.



...BUT
CONSID-
ERING
I WAS
ALSO
HERE...

I DON'T
KNOW
WHETHER
THIS
KOWLOON'S
MR. KUDOU
IS THE MR.
KUDOU
I KNOW
EITHER...

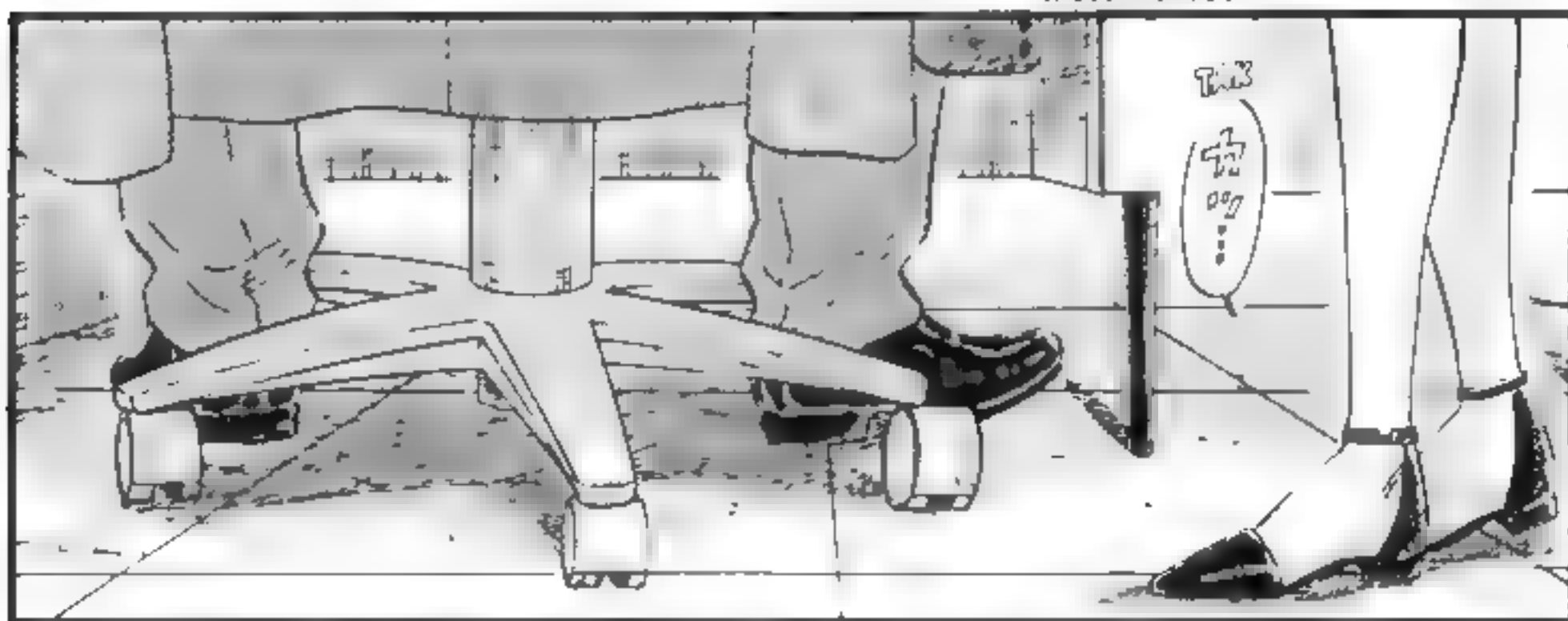


TELL HIM
I'LL DROP BY
TO SEE HIM
SOONER OR
LATER.

WELL,
NEVER
MIND.



LABEL KOWLOON



SIGN: GOOD LUCK







I
KNOW.





KOWLOON
Generic Romance

HOWLON
Generic Romance

CHAPTER 24

"...IS NO
LONGER
IN THIS
WORLD."

"THE
REIKO
KUJIRAI, I
KNOW..."

SOMEONE
ELSE'S
LIFE...?

"SO I
DO FEEL
SORRY
FOR YOU."

"YOU'VE
BEEN LIVING
SOMEONE
ELSE'S LIFE,
ALL THE WHILE
BELIEVING IT
WAS YOURS."

BADUM

BADUM

BADUM

BADUM

CHAPTER 24



...AND
THIS
LIFE IS
HERS?

IF HE'S
RIGHT, THEN
KUJIRAI B
AND I ARE
SEPARATE
PEOPLE...



...AND.....

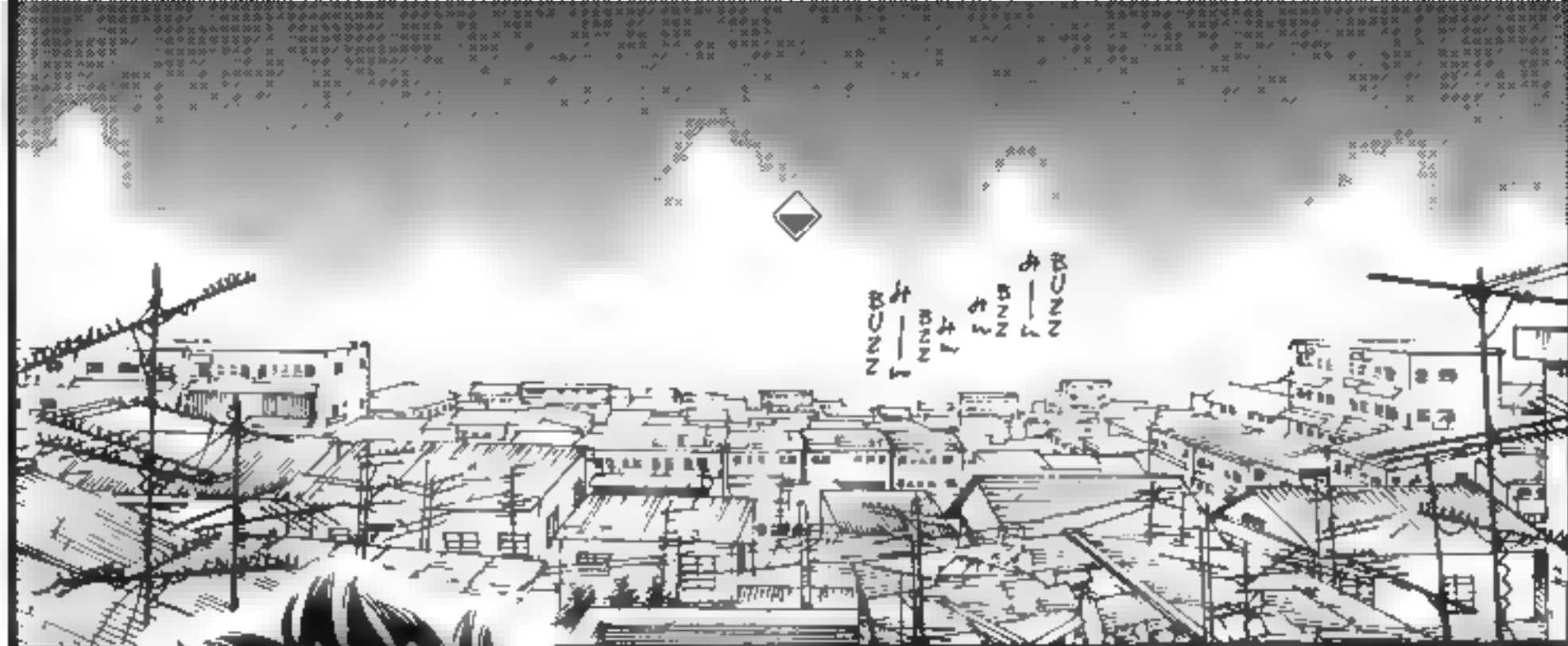


...LIVE IN
KUJIRAI B'S
APARTMENT...

YET I...

...WEAR
KUJIRAI B'S
CLOTHES...

...GO TO
KUJIRAI B'S
JOB...



HUH?



DID IT
WITHER
UP?

OH?
KUDOU,
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
SUN-
FLOWER?



THAT
DOESN'T
BELONG
TO ME
EITHER!

Reiko a Haja
Congratulation

CLICK
+
A



THE PAST
WHERE
MR. KUDOU
LOVED ME...

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

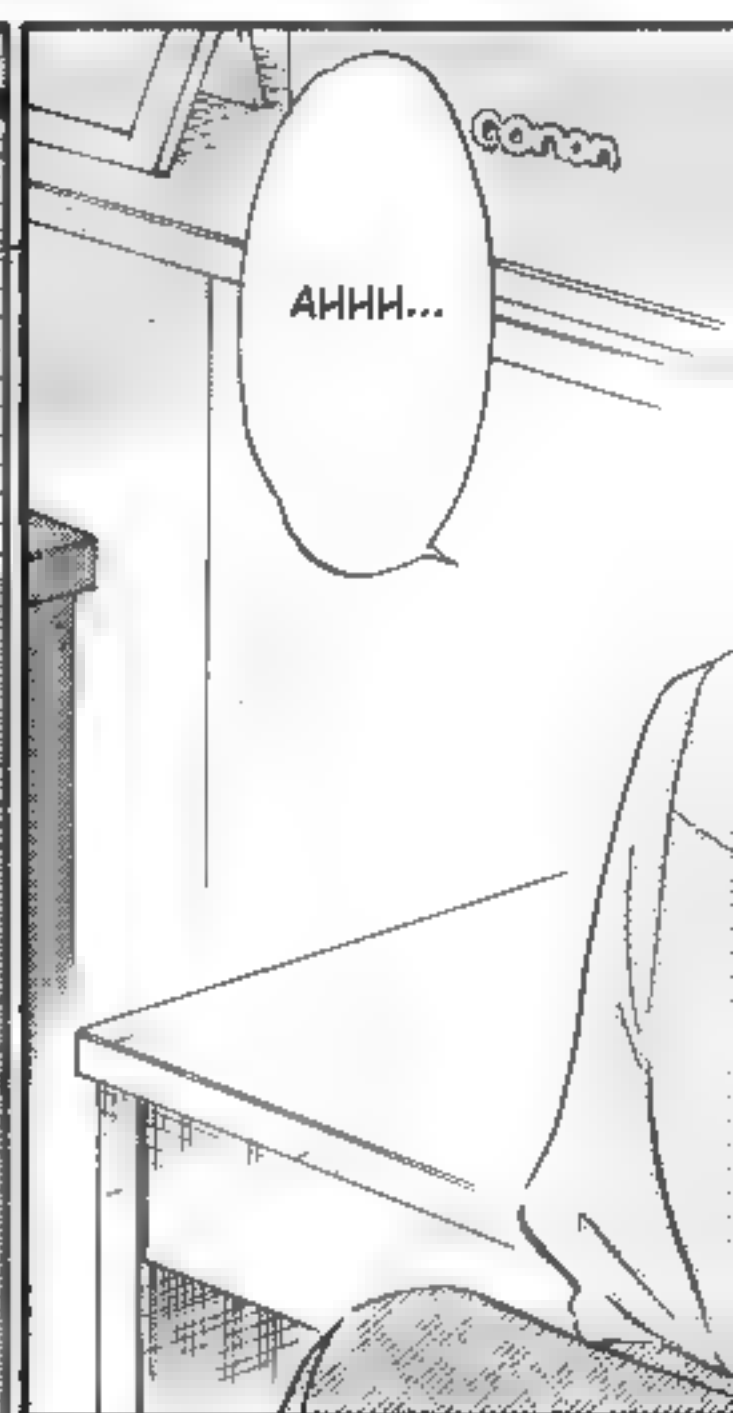
CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

CLICK
+
A

YES,
SIR...

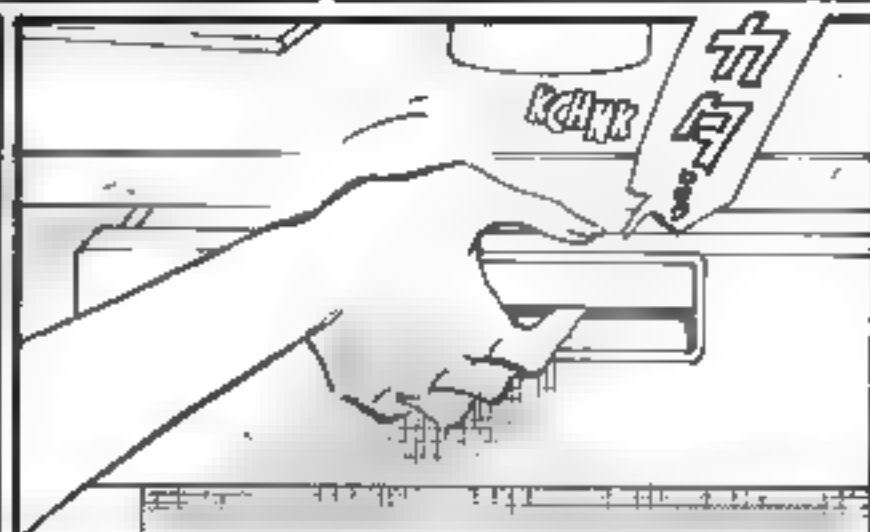
OH
NO



AAAAH...



SIGN: GOOD LUCK



"I HATE YOU."

MENU: ROLL / SHUMAI

MENU: HOT & SOUP EGGPLANT / TOFU WITH CENTURY EGG



MENU (LEFT): EGGPLANT / TOFU / CABBAGE



GOTCHA.

THE
APARTMENT'S
BEEN CLEANED,
AND HER
MOVE-IN DATE
IS ALL SET.



THE
SHRIMP
SPRING
ROLLS...



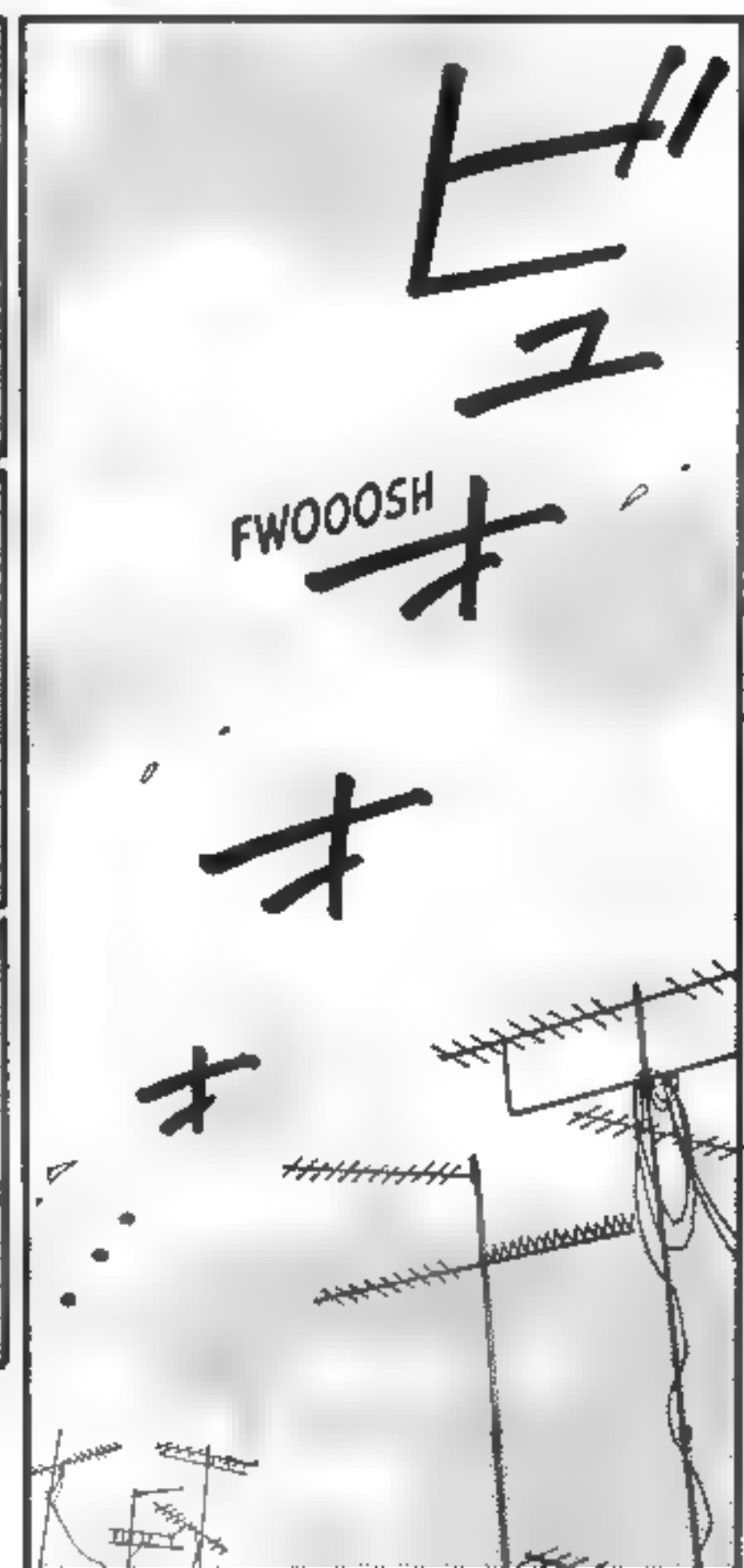
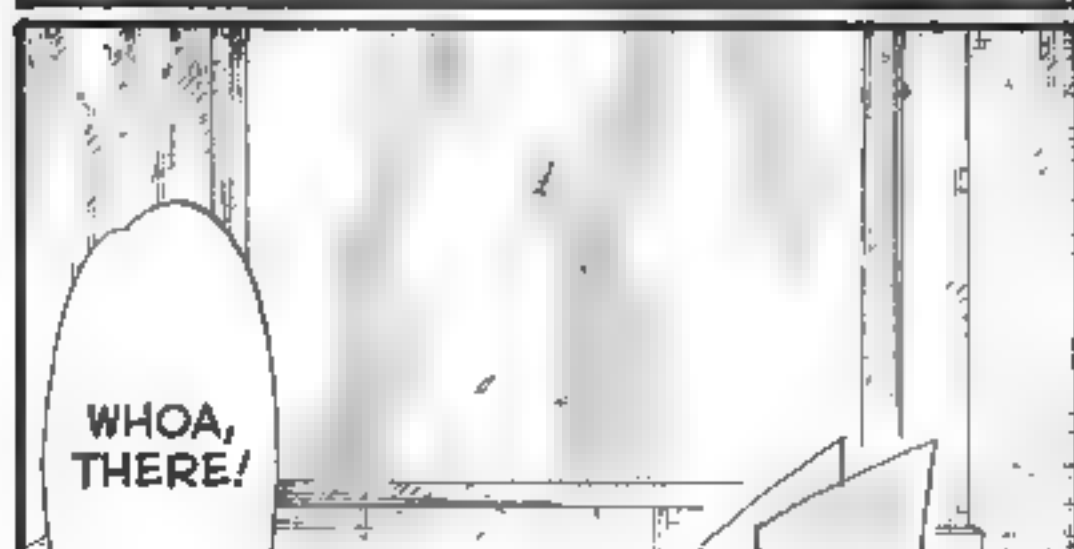
SURE...

...MAY
I ADD
TO OUR
ORDER?

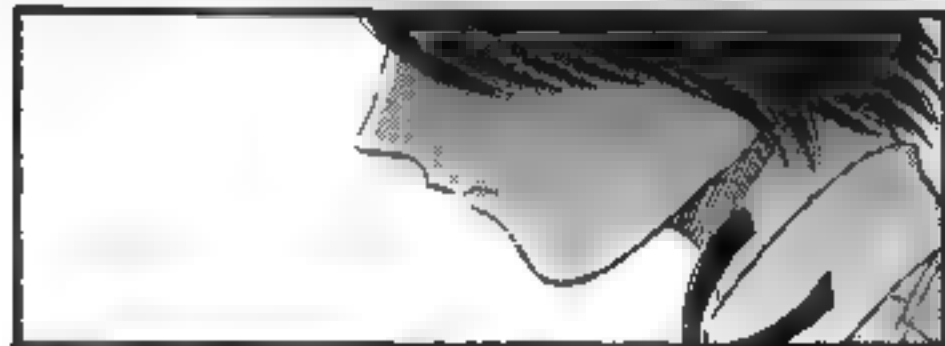


ERRRRM...

MENU: CRISPY SPRING ROLLS / SHRIMP SPRING ROLLS /
CRYSTAL SHRIMP DUMPLINGS / ROAST / STIR-FRIED TOMATO
AND SCRAMBLED EGGS / SZECHUAN STIR-FRIED STRING
BEANS

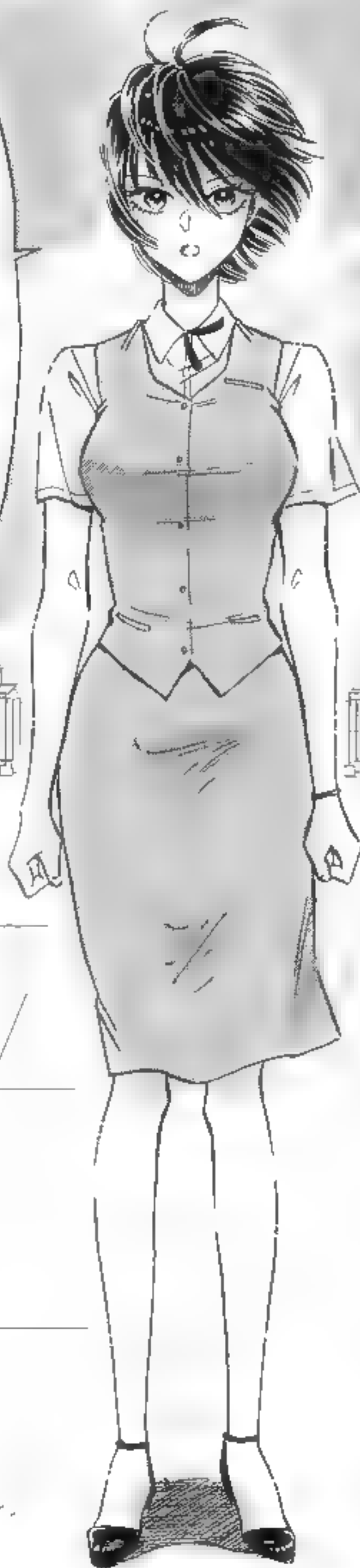


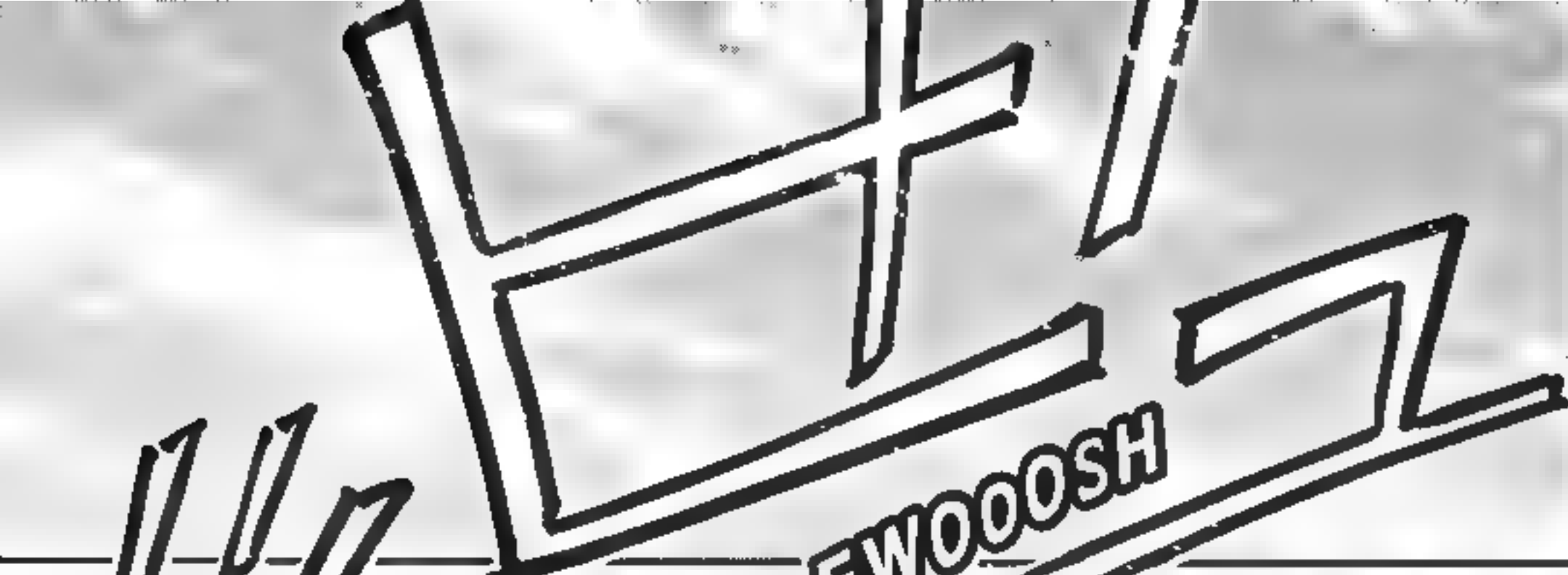




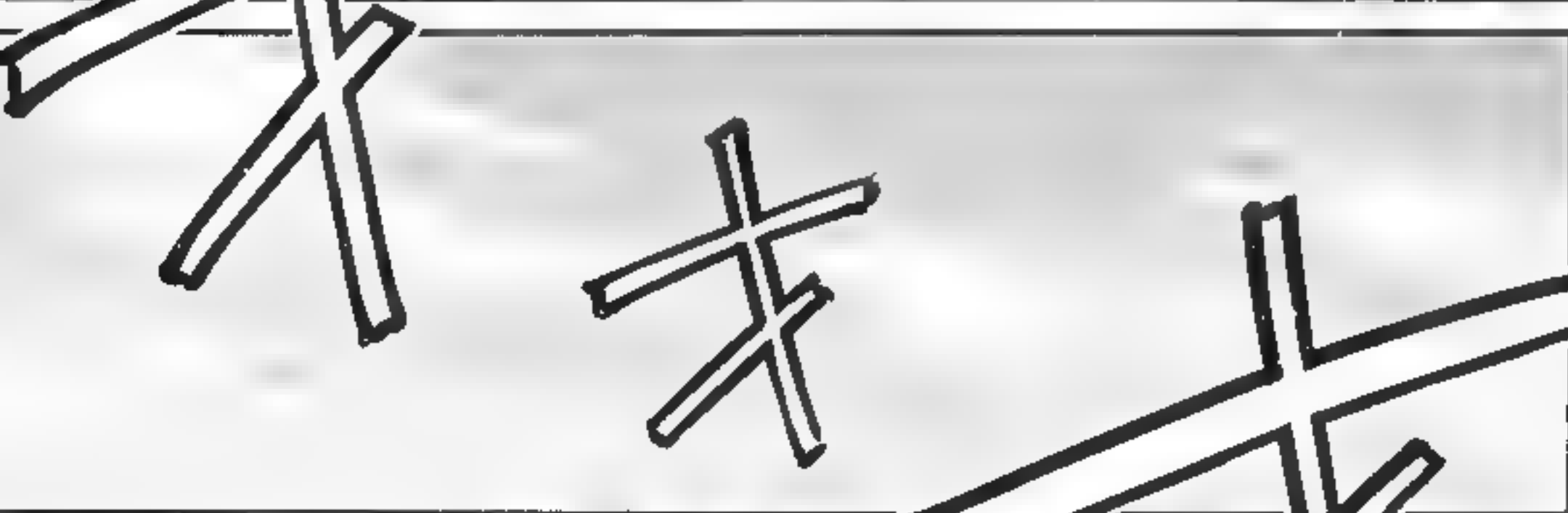
**...AM
NOT THE
REIKO
KUJIRAI
YOU KNOW,
AM I?**

I...





FWOOOSH





...IS
YOU.

THE ONE
WHO
DOESN'T
KNOW...

WHOOOSH



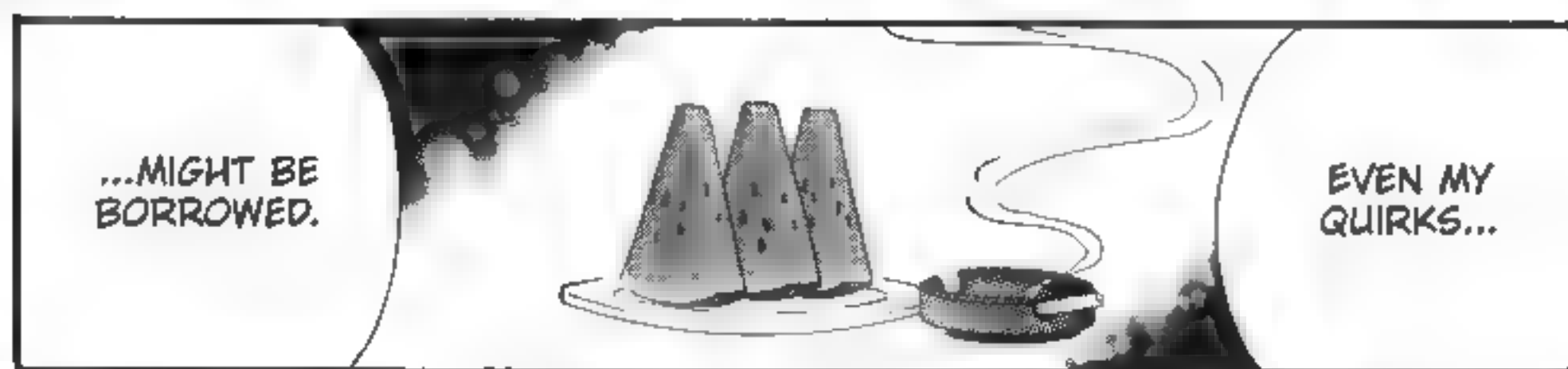
THAT'S
RIGHT.
I DON'T
KNOW.



...OR HOW
LONG I'VE
WORKED AT
WONG LOI
REALTY.

...HOW
LONG
I'VE LIVED
IN THAT
APART-
MENT...

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
LONG I'VE
BEEN IN
KOWLOON...



...MIGHT BE
BORROWED.

EVEN MY
QUIRKS...



LEMON
CHICKEN...

A FISH
TANK.

SHOES
I CHOSE
MYSELF.




AND...



BUT I
HAVE
THINGS
OF MY
OWN
TOO.






...THE SAME
GOES FOR
YOUR FEELINGS
TOWARD ME.
THEY'RE AN
ILLUSION
YOU'RE HAVING.
THAT'S ALL.

JUST LIKE
HOW YOU'RE
CONVINCED
THIS IS YOUR
LIFE...



AN
ILLUSION?



WOULD IT
GIVE YOU
A LUMP
IN YOUR
THROAT?

WOULD IT
MAKE YOU
WANT THEIR
APPROVAL?

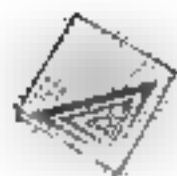
WOULD AN
ILLUSION
MAKE YOU
FOLLOW
SOMEONE
WITH YOUR
GAZE?

**...MAKE
ME
LONG
FOR
YOUR
TOUCH
...!?**

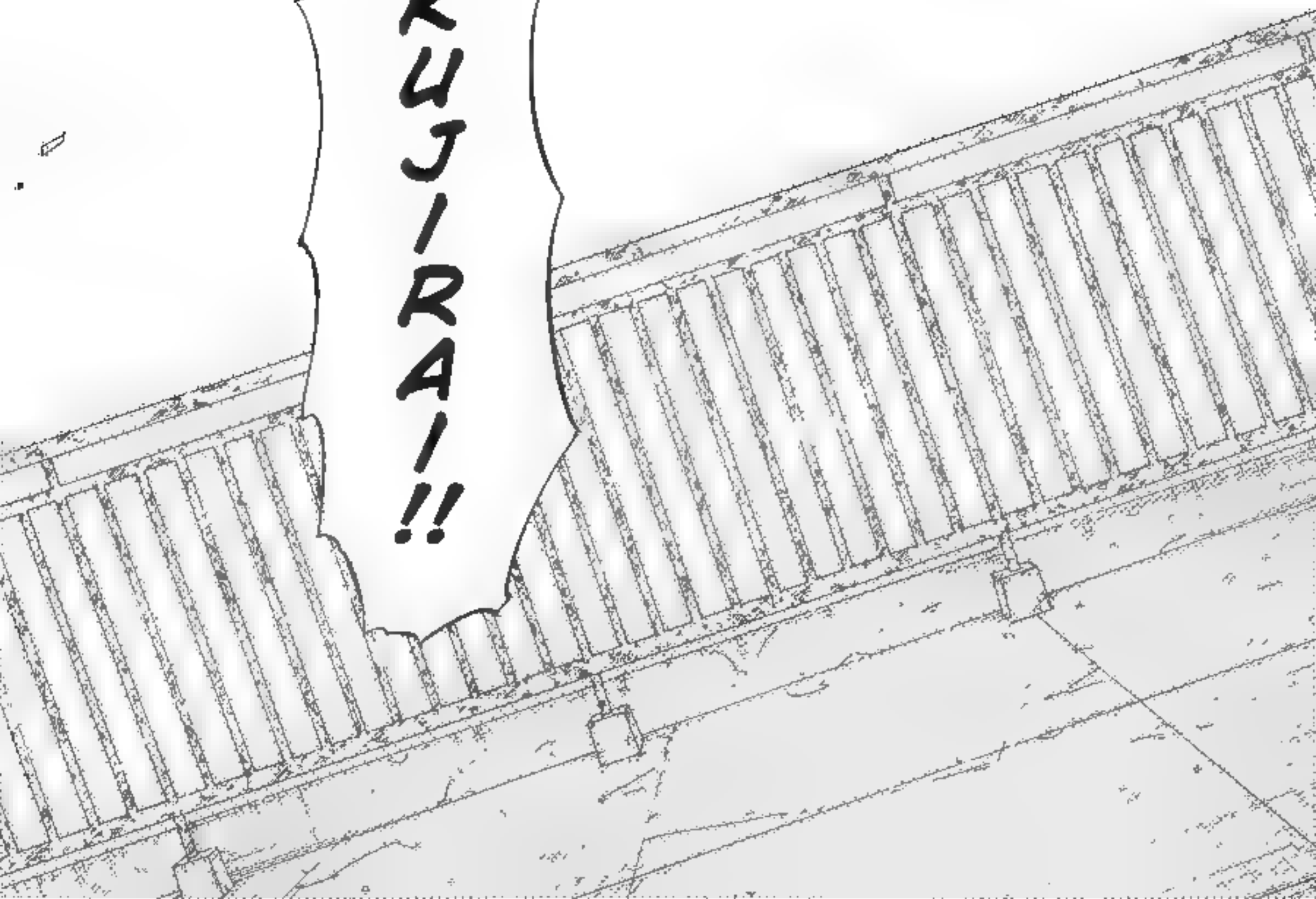
**WOULD
A MERE
ILLU-
SION...**







KUJIRAI!!

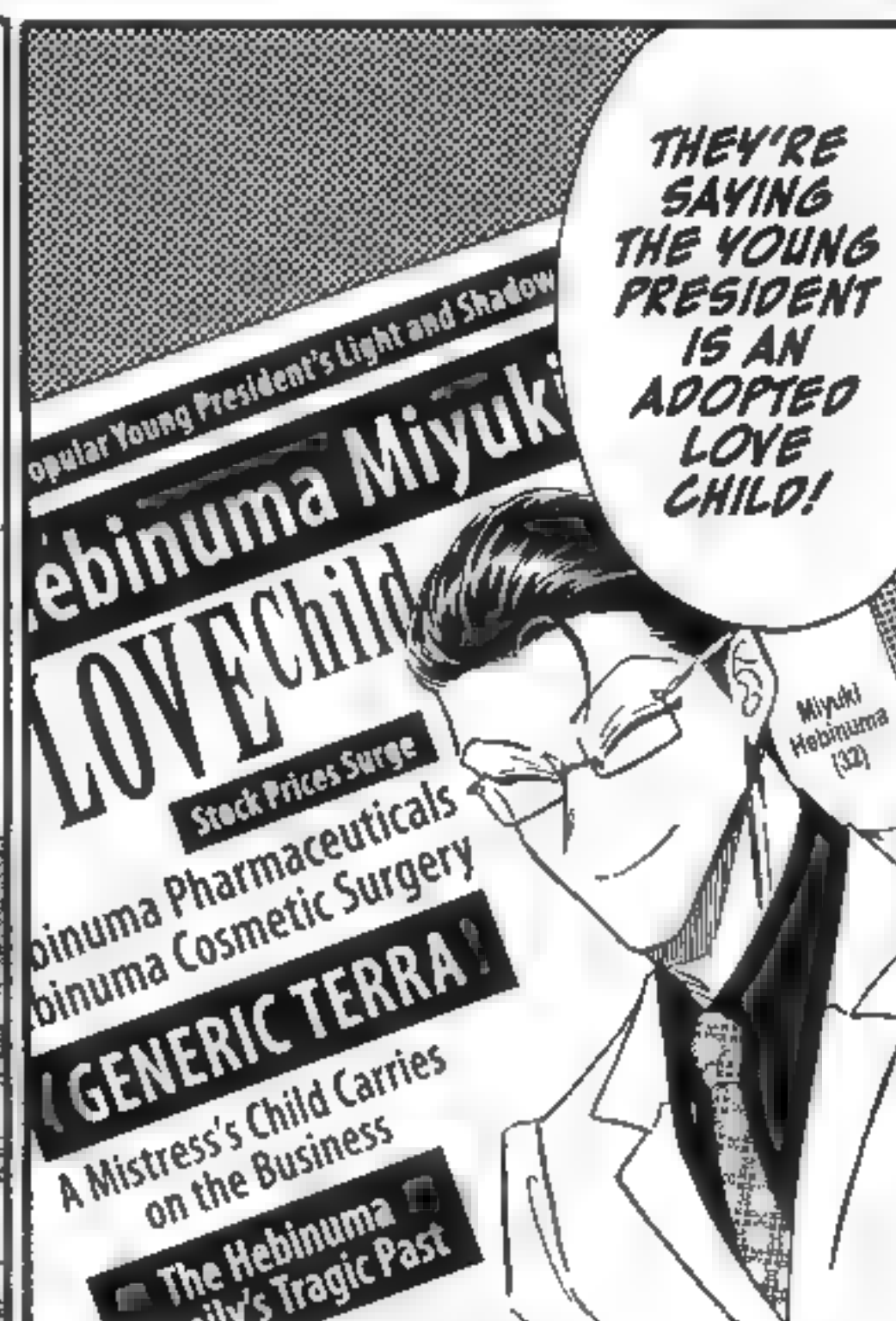


KOWLOON
Generic Romance

HOWLON
Generic Romance







HEE-
HEE-HEE!♡
YOU MEAN
THE GOSSIP
ABOUT
MR. GWEN,
RIIIGHT?

SAY, THE
MAGAZINE
ARTICLE IS
INTERESTING,
BUT AREN'T
YOU DYING TO
KNOW ABOUT
THE OTHER
GOSSIP
TOOT

NOW THAT
I'M HAVING
A GOOD
LOOK AT IT,
IT'S TRUE.
MAYBE THEY
DO HAVE
DIFFERENT
FACES.

I THINK
SO TOO!
AFTER
AAAALL...

THEY SAY
HE'S AN
AIDE, BUT I
GUARANTEE
YOU HE'S
THE YOUNG
PRESIDENT'S
LOVER.

I WONDER
IF THE ELDER
MASTER
LEAVES THIS
PAINTING
UP SO THAT
HE'LL NEVER
FORGET HIS
SON'S FACE...

AH!
SHHH!

HEY.
THANKS.

EXCUSE US.
WE BROUGHT
YOUR
BREAKFAST,
MASTER
MIYUKI.



EEEK!
WE WERE
RIGHT!!

THANK
YOU!!!

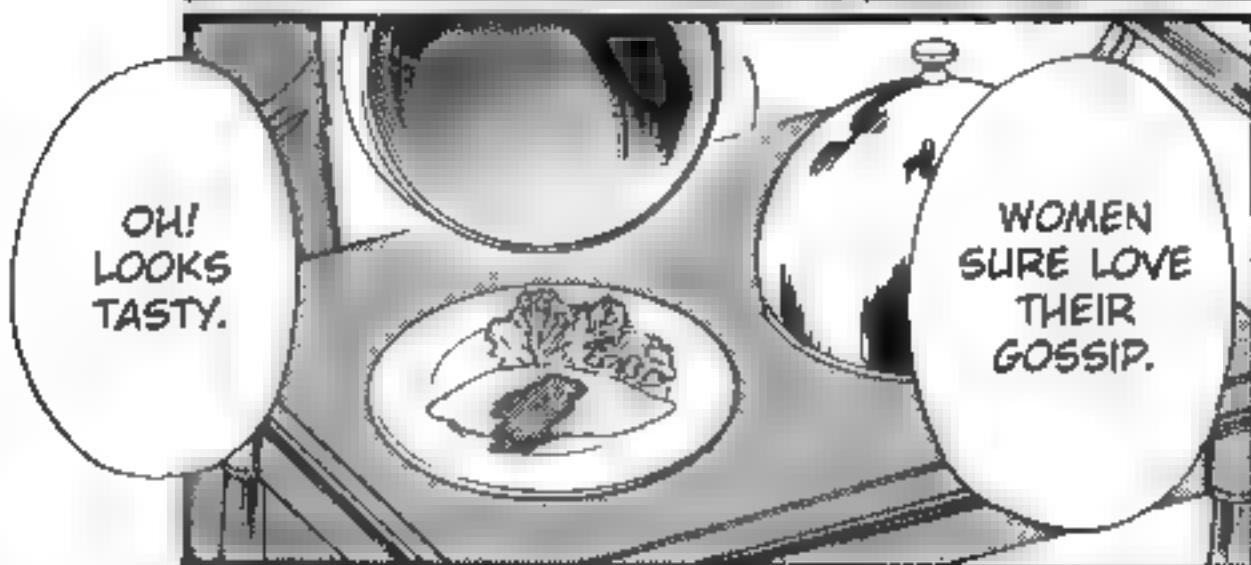
PLEASE
PAR-
DON
US!



WE ONLY
BROUGHT
BREAK-
FAST FOR
ONE...

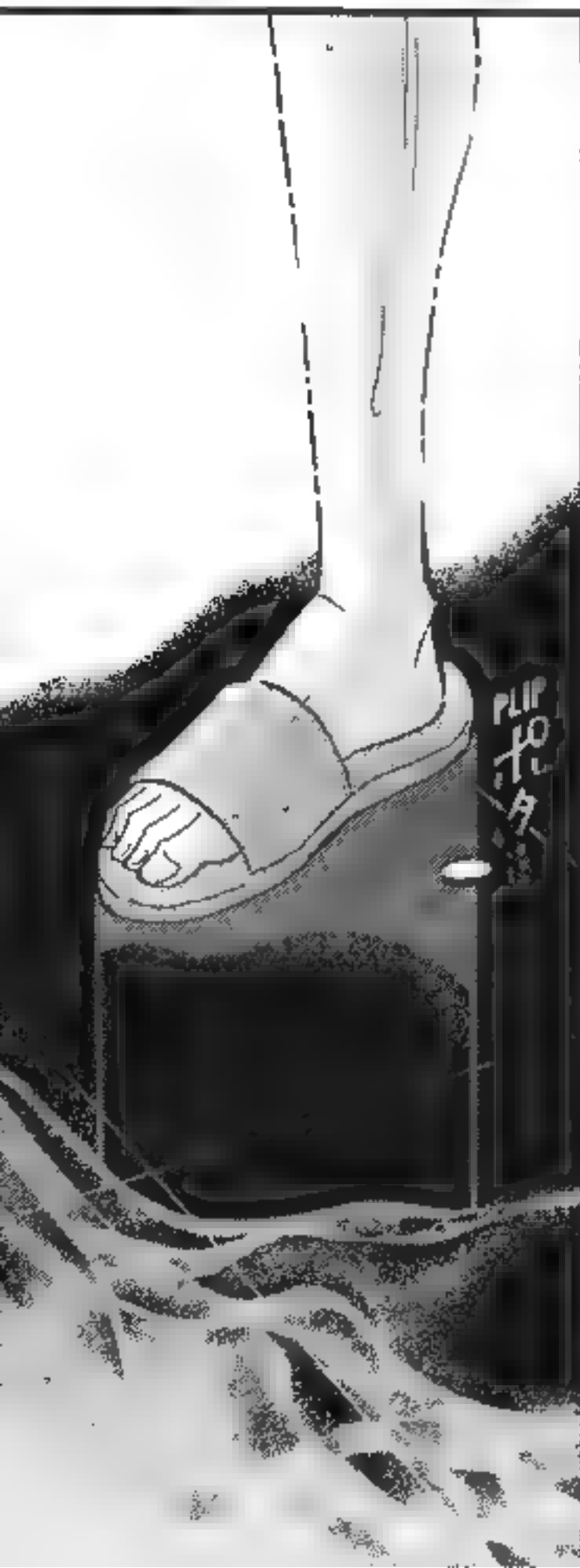
MR.
GWEN!
YOU WERE
WITH
MASTER
MIYUKI!?

HEY, NO
WORRIES.
I'LL TAKE
IT FROM
HERE.



OH!
LOOKS
TASTY.

WOMEN
SURE LOVE
THEIR
GOSSIP.



PLIP
TO
IT!



THE
HEBINUMA
GROUP
COULD HAVE
COVERED IT
UP, RIGHT?
THEY'RE
POWERFUL
ENOUGH.

THANKS
FOR THE
FOOD.

I'M
GONNA
EAT

IS IT
OKAY THAT
ARTICLE
CAME OUT?



THE
ACCIDENT
MADE THE
NEWS AT
THE TIME AS
WELL.

...I
AM NOT
REALLY
TRYING TO
HIDE MY
ORIGIN,
AND IT'S
SOMETHING
ALL THE
OLD STAFF
ALREADY
KNOW.

IT IS ONLY
BEING DUG UP
AGAIN BECAUSE
THE NEBINUMA
GROUP'S
INVOLVEMENT IN
GENERIC TERRA
HAS MADE US A
HOT TOPIC.

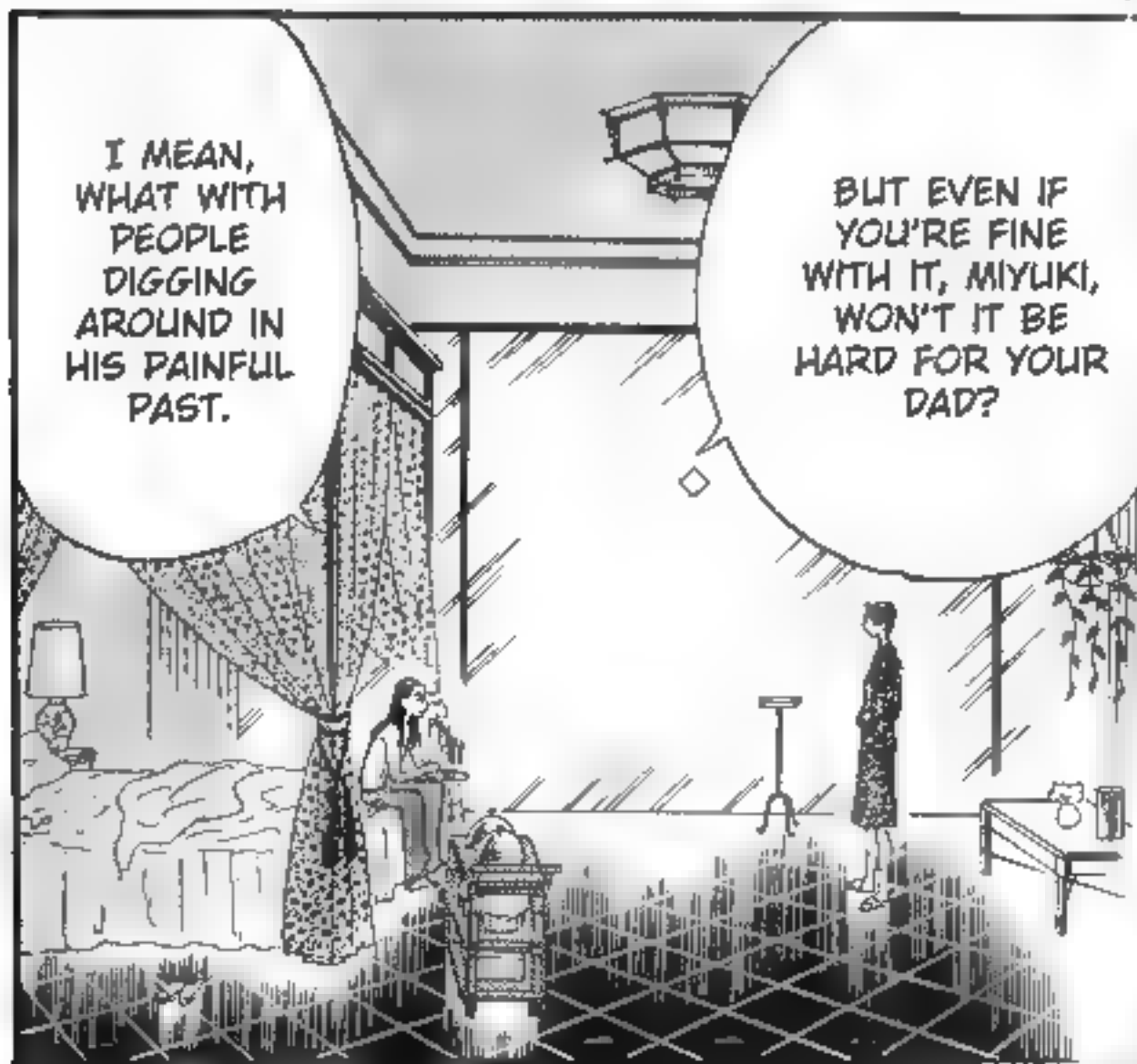
ちや
CHK

MM-HMMMM.
AND 'COS
YOU'RE EYE-
CATCHING
TOO.

もい
もい
もい
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH

I MEAN,
WHAT WITH
PEOPLE
DIGGING
AROUND IN
HIS PAINFUL
PAST.

BUT EVEN IF
YOU'RE FINE
WITH IT, MIYUKI,
WON'T IT BE
HARD FOR YOUR
DAD?



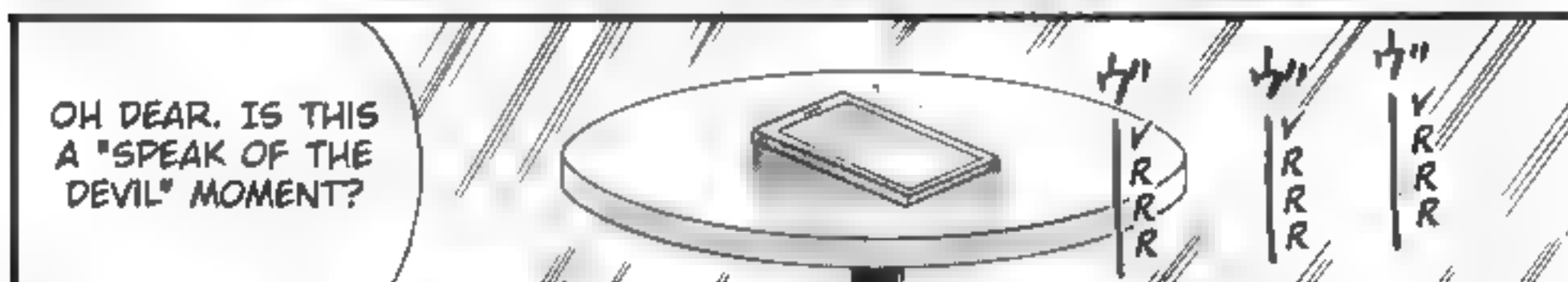


COULD
IT BE...

...AH.



...YOU
LET THAT
ARTICLE
GO OUT
INTENTION-
ALLY?



OH DEAR. IS THIS
A "SPEAK OF THE
DEVIL" MOMENT?



I'M TAKING
CARE OF IT.
PLEASE LEAVE
EVERYTHING
TO ME...



THE
FUNDRAISING
FOR GENE
TERRA
IS GOING
SMOOTHLY...

SLIP

...AS
IS THE
ZIRCONIAN
MATTER.



YES, I'LL
WORK TO
AVOID OC-
CURRENCES
LIKE THIS
IN THE
FUTURE...

MY
SINCEREST
APOLOGIES.



GOOD
MORN-
ING.

YES.
YOU'VE
SEEN
IT?



...FATHER.



YOU'VE
BEEN
WORKING
TOO MUCH
LATELY,
MIYUKI.

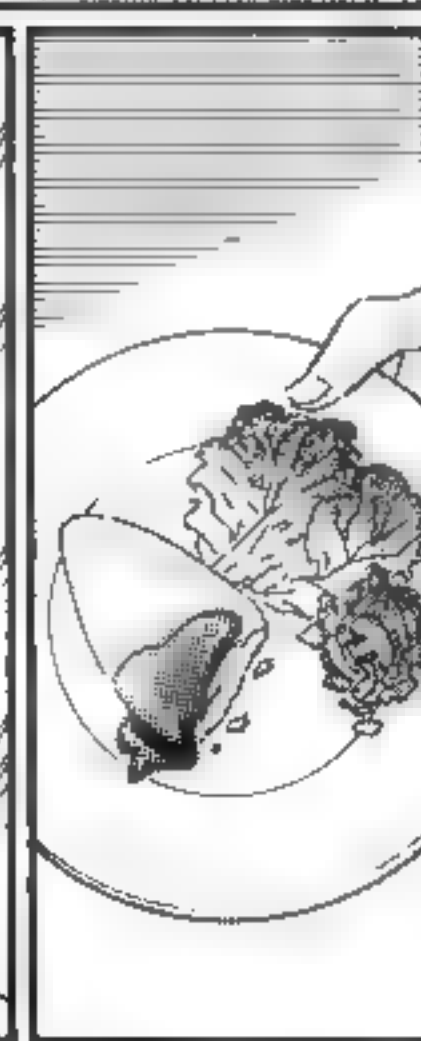
IT'S
YOUR
DAY OFF,
RIGHT?
LET'S GO
OUT.



I HAVE A
CRAVING.



HERE.
EAT SOME
BREAKFAST.











...WAS
SEEING
SOMEONE SO
BEAUTIFUL
SITTING THERE
IN A SHIRT TOO
WELL TAILORED
FOR THE
DIVE BAR WE
WERE IN.

THE FIRST
SHOCK...



THIS TAKES
ME BACK TO
THE DAY WE
FIRST MET.




**THOSE
WEREN'T THE
ONLY SHOCKS
YOU HAD
THAT DAY, I'M
SURE.**

AND
SHOCK
NUMBER
FOUR WAS
WHEN I
LEARNED
WHO YOU
WERE!

IT WAS
LIKE,
"DAMN!"

SHOCK NUMBER
TWO WAS WHEN
WE KISSED, AND
YOUR TONGUE
WAS FORKED.
SHOCK THREE
WAS WHEN I
UNDRESSED YOU,
AND YOU HAD
THAT TATTOO.



CRUMPLE

HMPH.

OF COURSE NOT.



YOUR DAD DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT, RIGHT?



...WELL, SURE.



WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'D DO TO ME IF HE FOUND OUT...?



I SEE THAT OUR POSITIONS REVERSE BETWEEN KOWLOON AND HONG KONG ISLAND.

HA!
ARE YOU LECTURING ME?



ABOUT YOU.

ABOUT WHAT?

I'M WORRIED.



**HAVEN'T
YOU DONE
ENOUGH?**

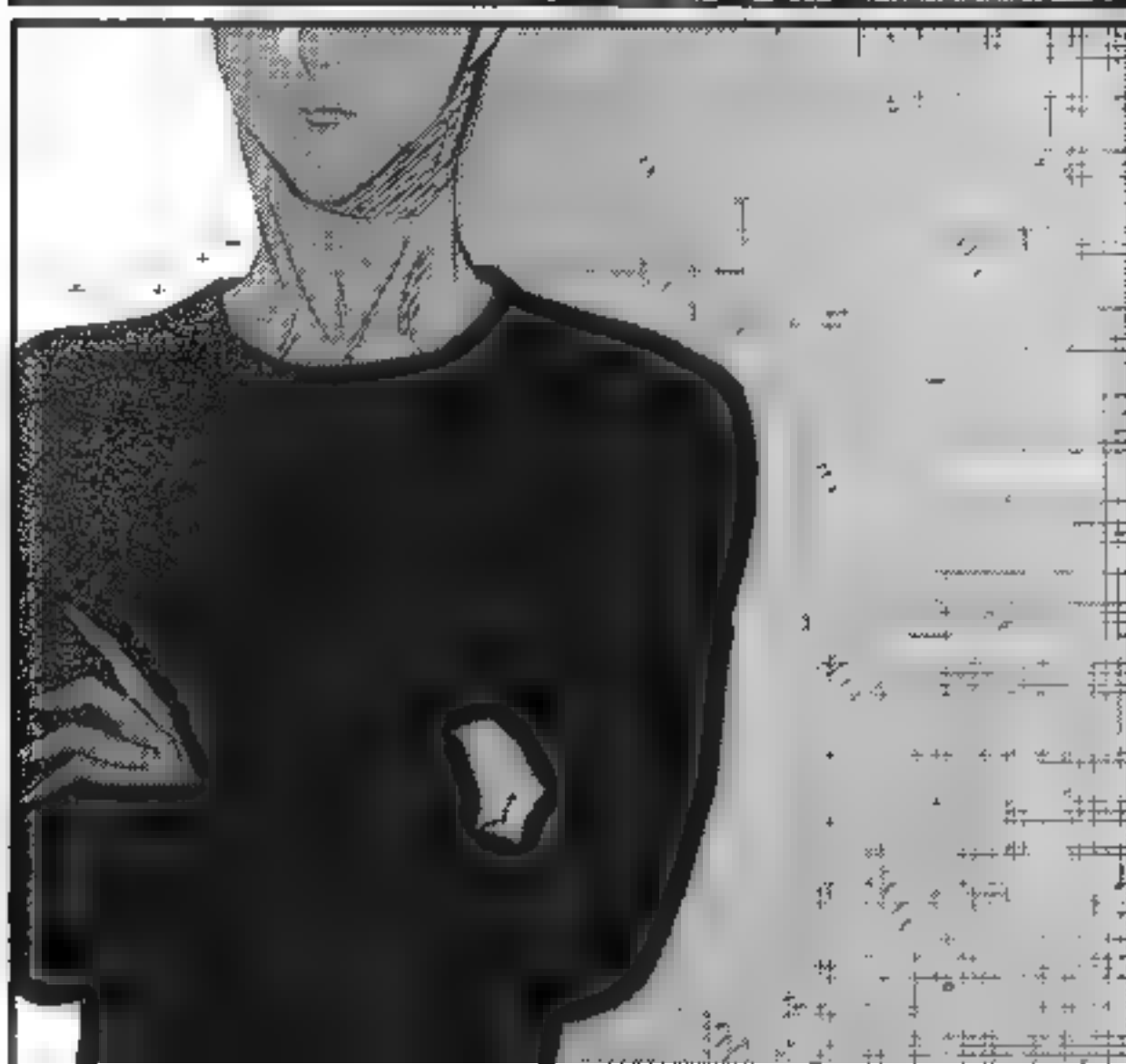
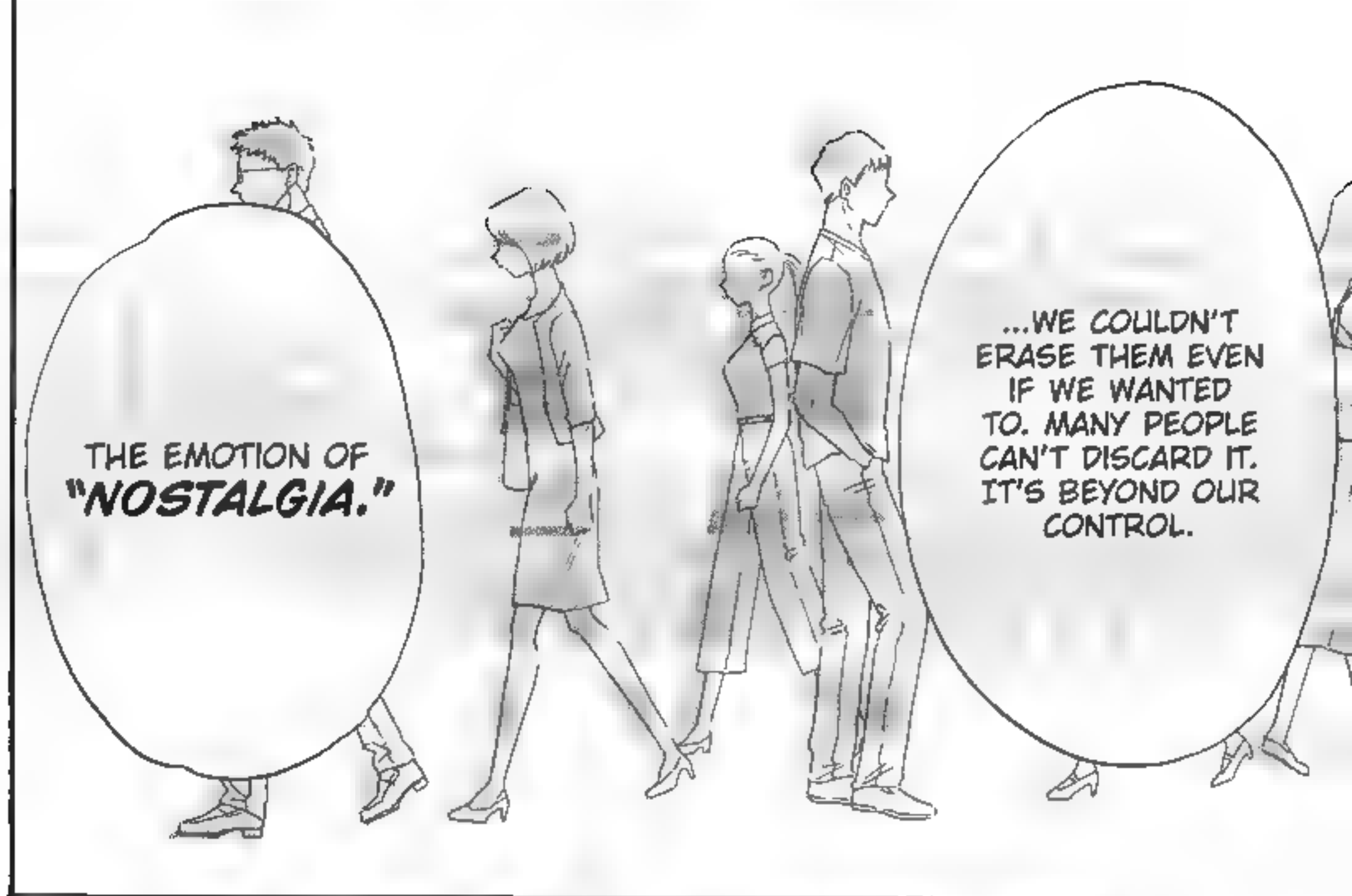


SSK

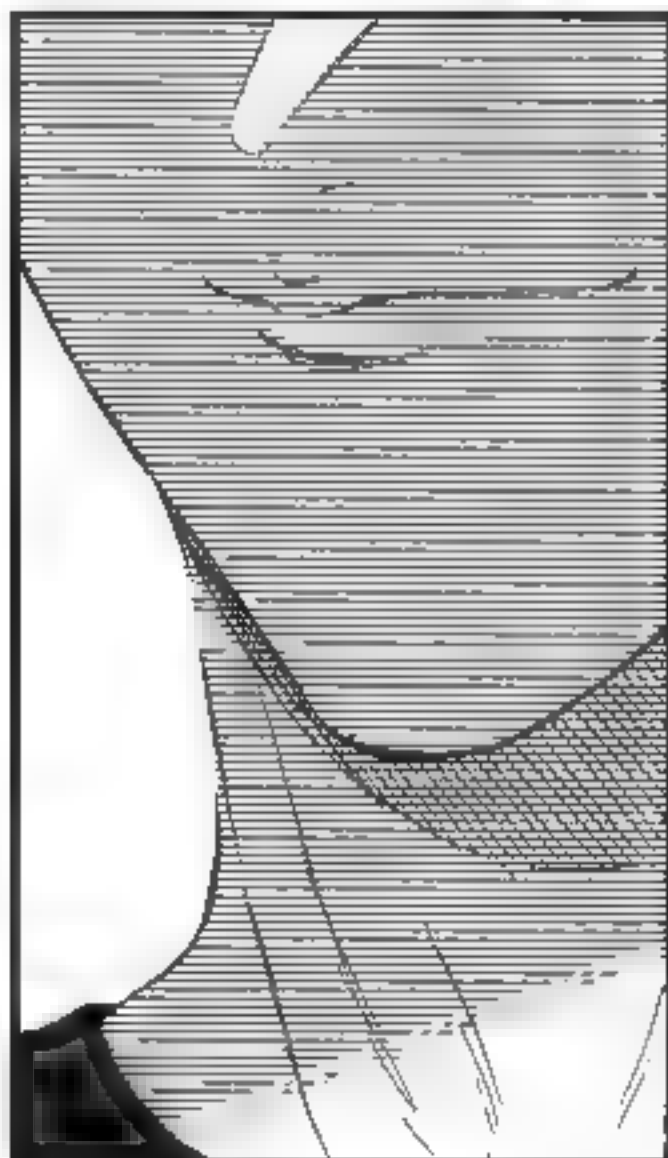
**I'M ONLY
GETTING
STARTED.**

**PERISH
THE
THOUGHT.**





**THE
ABSOLUTE.**

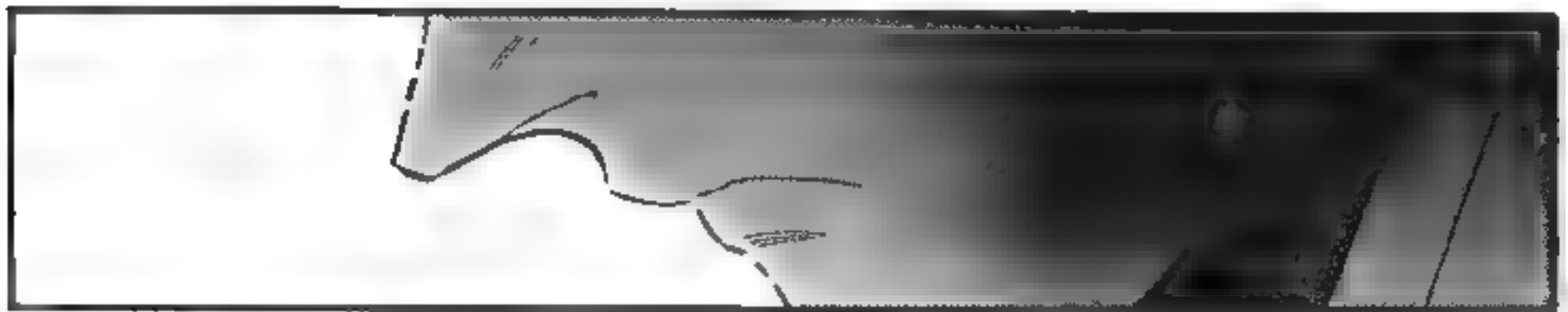


**NOT THE
PERFECT?**





**"ABSOLUTE,"
BECAUSE
THERE'S NO
SUCH
THING AS
"PERFECT."**



...AS LONG
AS YOU ACT
LIKE NORMAL,
YOUR LIFE
WILL GO BACK
TO NORMAL
TOO.

EVEN WHEN
SOMETHING
INCREDIBLY
PAINFUL
HAPPENS...



IT HAS
TO...

CHAPTER 26





THE
ROOF...
AHH...

YOU
PASSED OUT
ON THE ROOF
YESTERDAY.
YOU DON'T
REMEMBER?

YOU
WERE SOUND
ASLEEP UNTIL
JUST NOW.
DIDJA PULL
AN ALL-
NIGHTER OR
SOMETHIN'?



MORNING.

OII...



...NH.



HOW
D'YOU
FEEL?

MAN, MY
NECK IS
KILLIN' ME.

MY
PLACE.

G-GOOD
MORNING...
UM, WHERE
AM I...?

HUU?

HOW
DO I
FEEL?

CREAK
#

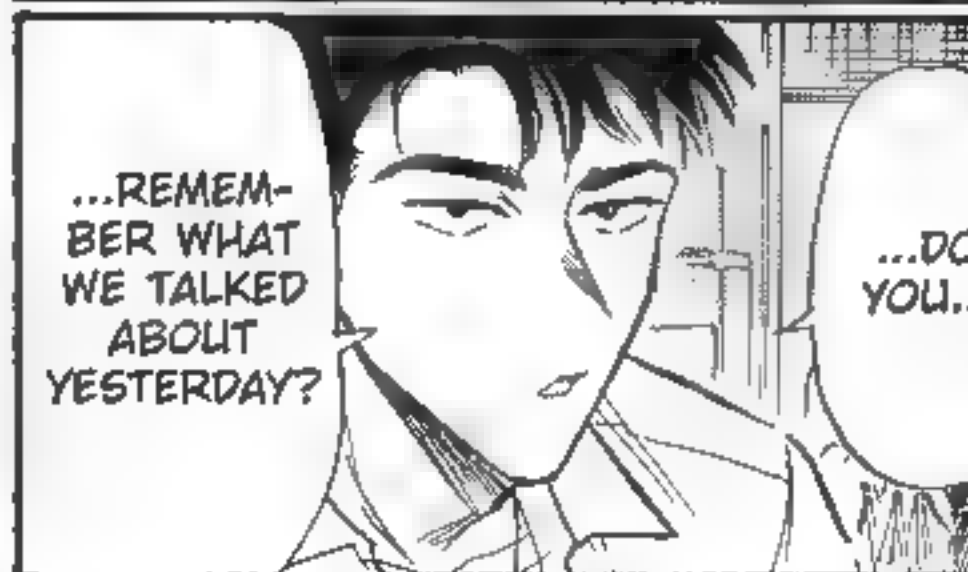


"I'M NOT THE
REIKO KUJIRAI
YOU KNOW,
AM I?"



I WAS
SLEEP-
DEPRIVED
...

AH...
YES...



...REMEM-
BER WHAT
WE TALKED
ABOUT
YESTERDAY?

...DO
YOU...



...IS
YOU."

"THE
ONE WHO
DOESN'T
KNOW..."

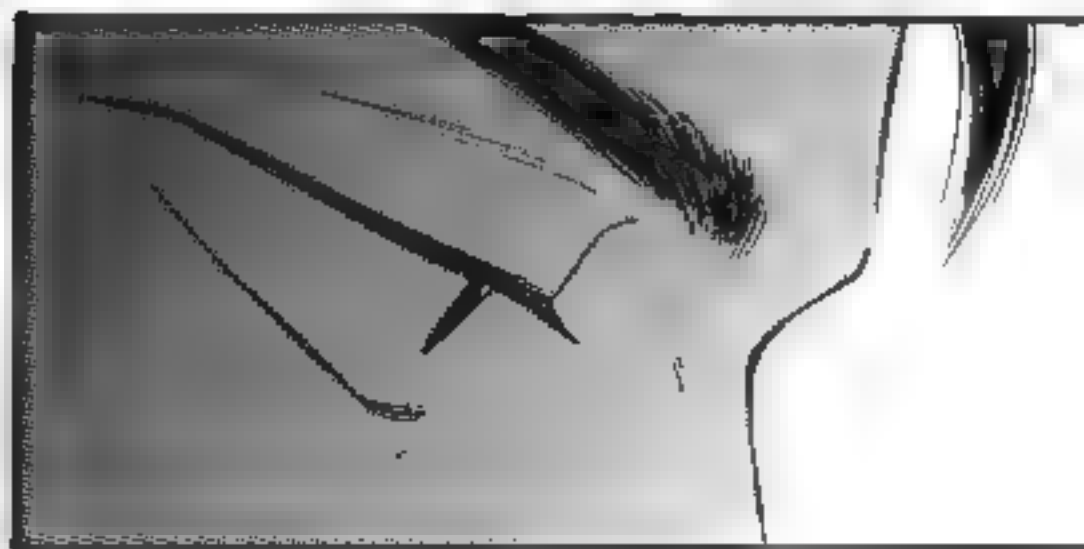


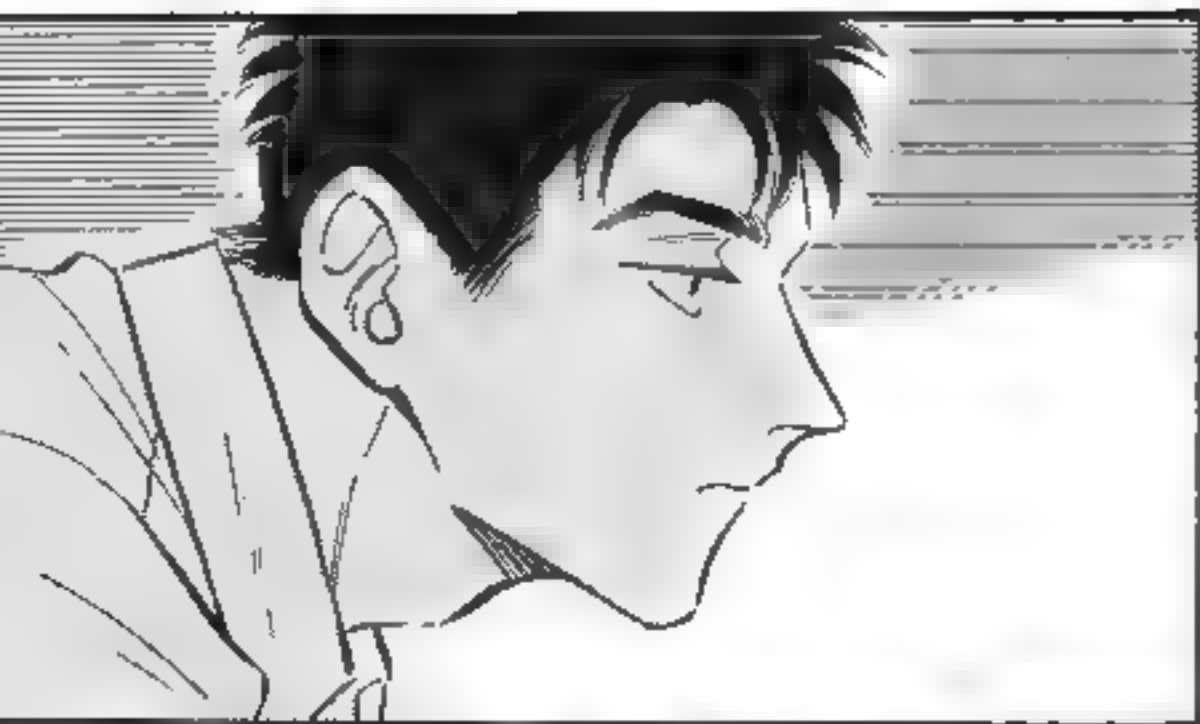
ABOUT
THE REIKO
KUJIRAI
I KNOW.

DO YOU
WANT ME
TO TELL
YOU?



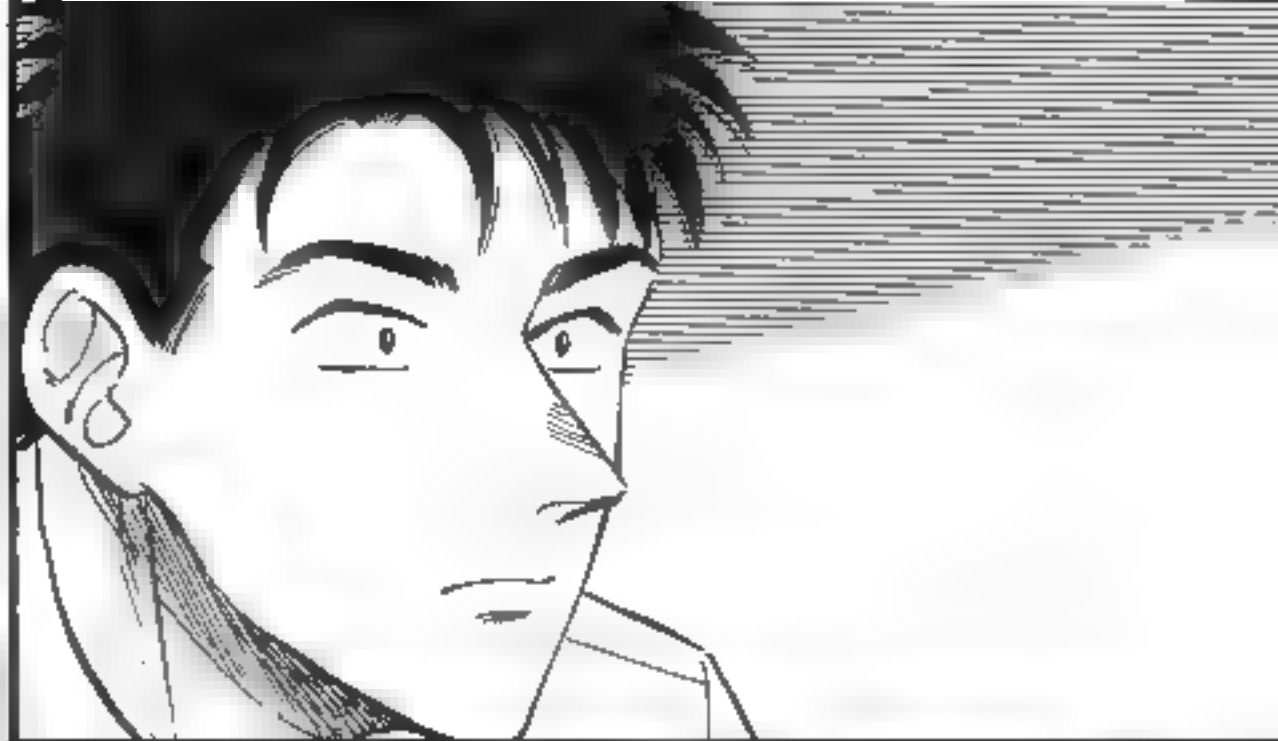
...YES.







...ARE YOU
SERIOUS?



...I DON'T
NEED TO
KNOW...



WELL...

...ALL
RIGHT.



AH...
OKAY...

YOU
PASSED
OUT! I'LL
COVER
FOR YOU
WITH MR.
LEE.



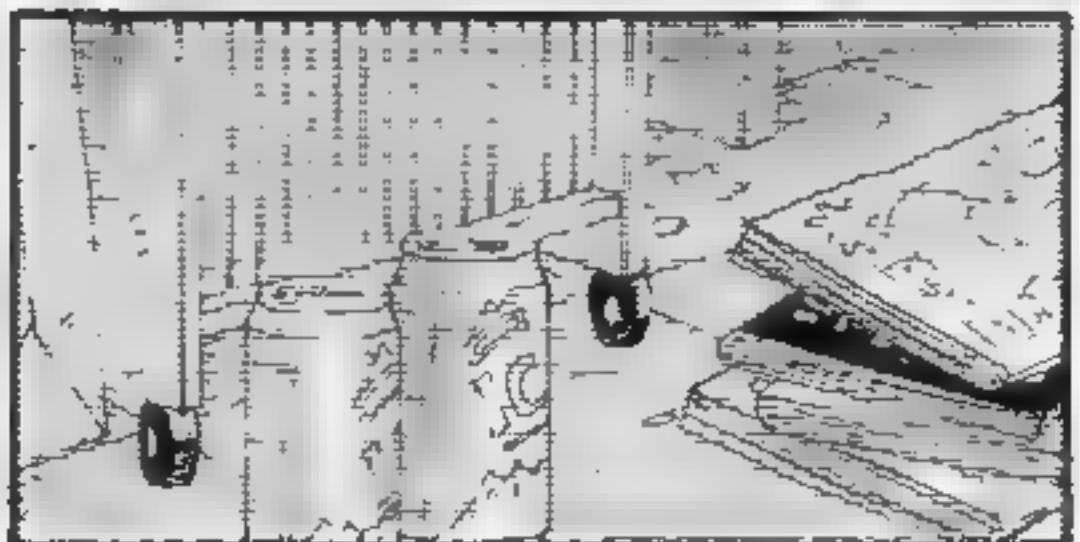
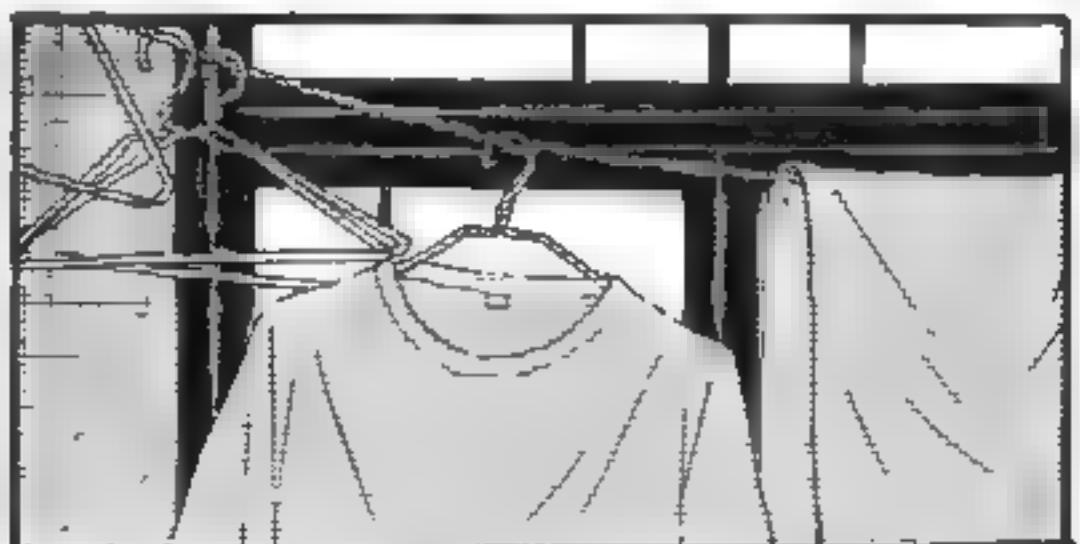
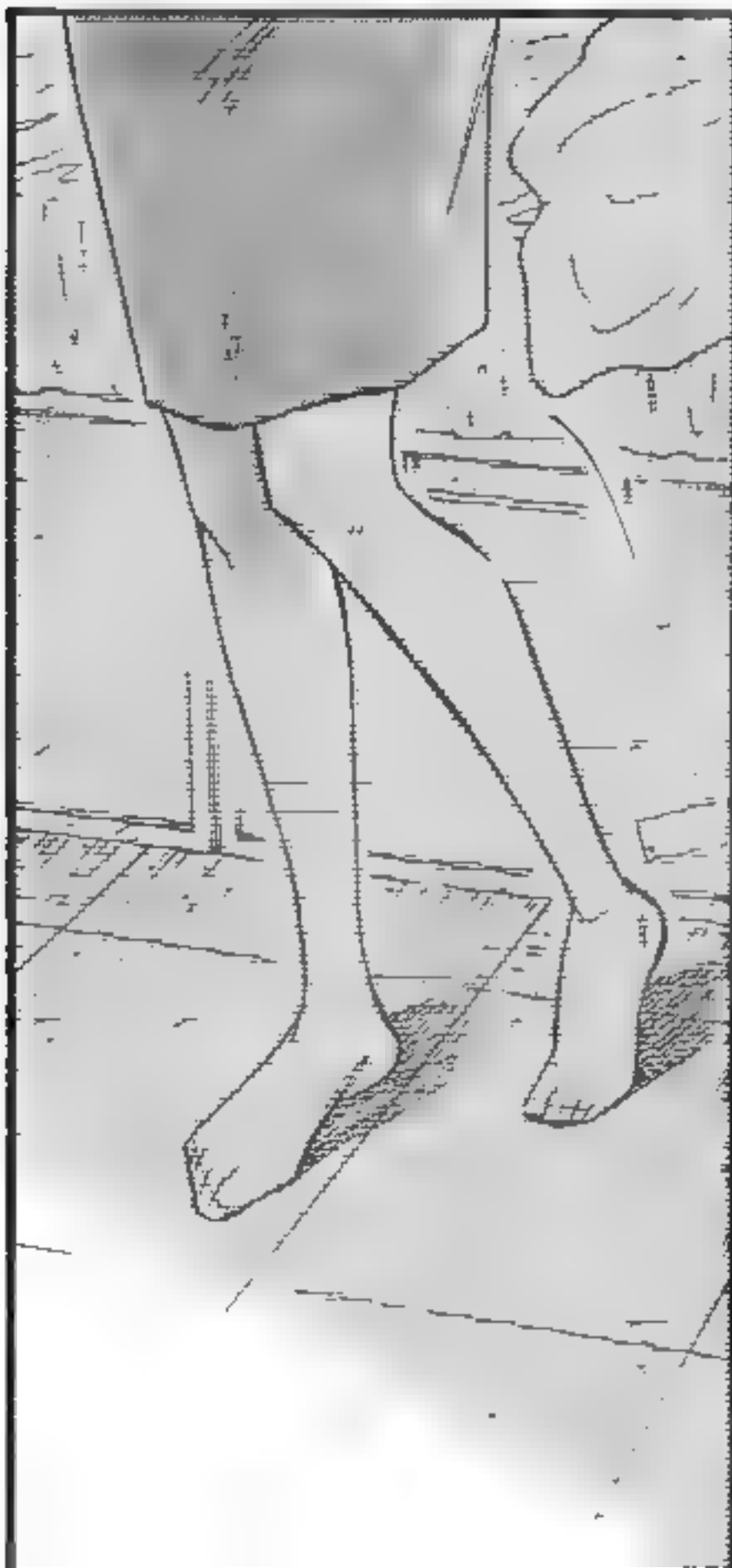
HUH!?

I'M GONNA GO TO
WORK. YOU HEAD
HOME AND TAKE IT
EASY TODAY.



...IF
THAT'S
WHAT
YOU
WANT
...







THE FAST WAY TO "GREEN DRAVIN"



SIGNS (RIGHT): GOLD / RAMEN / TAOIST /
RAMEN / BROTH / MEAT NOODLES



SIGNS (BELOW): DONGMING QUALITY RIDES /
STATIONERY. DIVINATION, FENG SHUI. GEOGRAPHY



SIGN SHUNTAK SEAFOOD RESTAURANT



HA-HA-HA!
YEP, EVERYBODY
NEEDS A
REST ONCE
IN A WHILE!
I MYSELF
TOOK THE
DAY OFF
FROM
MAHJONG!

AH...YES...
I TOOK A
PERSONAL
DAY...

DO YOU
HAVE THE
DAY OFF
WORK?

KUJIRAI?

IT'S
RARE TO
SEE YOU
AROUND
THESE
PARTS.

MR.
CHOW.

AH...
OKAY...

SINCE YOU'RE
HERE, WHY
DON'T YOU
PRAY BEFORE
YOU GO?



...THEN DROP
THE BLOCKS
TO THE
GROUND.

YOU TELL
THE GODS
YOUR NAME,
ADDRESS,
DATE OF
BIRTH, AND
WISH...

FIRST,
YOU
HOLD THE
JIAOBEI
IN FRONT
OF YOUR
CHEST.

RED
BLOCKS
SHAPED
LIKE A
CRESCENT
MOON.
THEY
COME IN
PAIRS.

THEY
HAVE A
FRONT
AND
BACK.

BACK

FRONT

SIDE
VIEW

UP
DOWN

COLOR
IS
RED



CLATTER

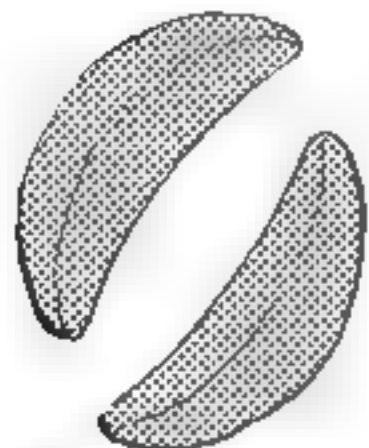


WHAT'S
THAT?

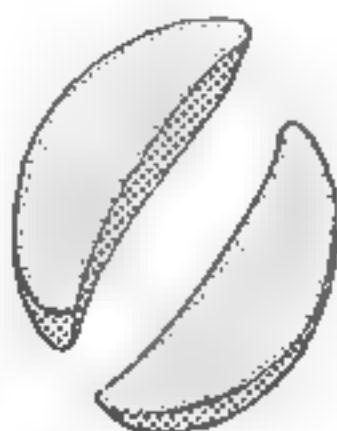
HM? OH,
THAT'S
JIAOBEI.
IT'S
FORTUNE-
TELLING.

CLATTER

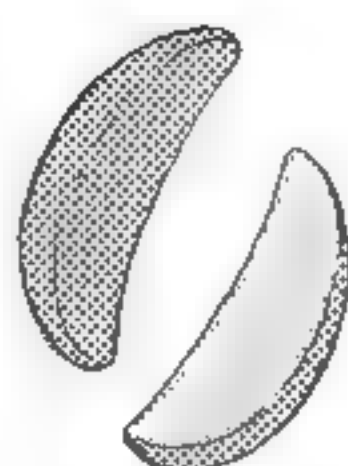
CLATTER



BOTH BACK
IS AN ANGRY
ANSWER, OR
"NUBEI." IT
ALSO MEANS
TRY AGAIN.



BOTH
FRONT IS A
LAUGHING
ANSWER, OR
"XIAOBEI." THAT MEANS
TRY AGAIN.



ONE FRONT
AND ONE
BACK IS
A DIVINE
ANSWER, OR
"SHENGBEI." THAT MEANS
YOUR WISH
WAS HEARD.

ME!?

YOU TRY,
KUJIRAI.

CLATTER

THERE'S MORE
TO IT AFTER
THAT, BUT YOU
CAN'T PROCEED
UNTIL YOU GET
SHENGBEI.

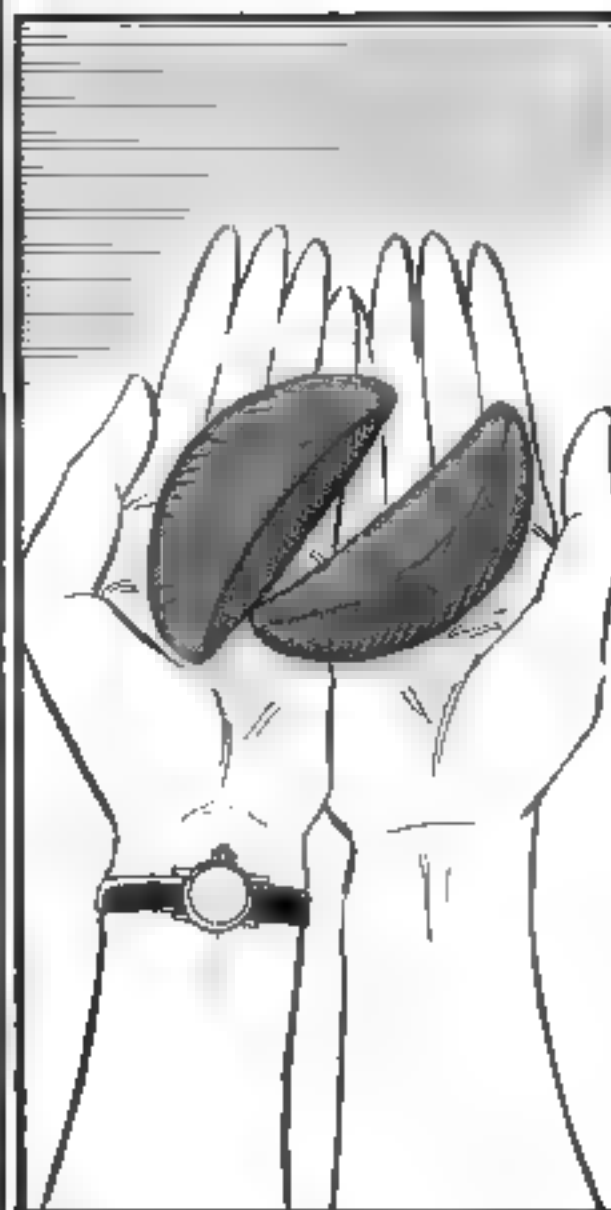
YOU KEEP
DROPPING THEM
UNTIL YOU GET
SHENGBEI. ONCE
YOU GET IT, YOU
GO AND DRAW A
FORTUNE SLIP.

YOU
CAN DO
IT THAT
MANY
TIMES..?



...WHAT...
DO I WISH
FOR...?

IN THIS
MOMENT...

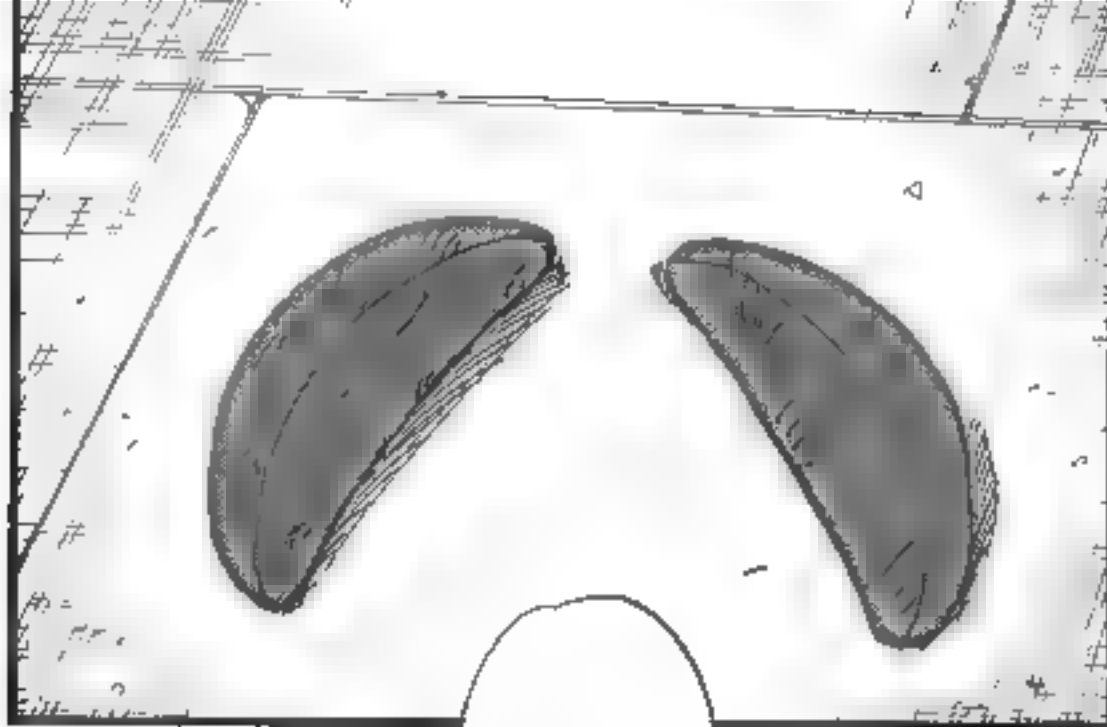


LIKE
HER...



...MR.
KIDOU'S
GIRL.

I WANT
TO BE...



.....MAY
MR. KUDOU.....

...MAY OUR
RELATIONSHIP
COME EVEN
SLIGHTLY
CLOSER TO MR.
KUDOU AND
KUJIRAI B'S.

MAY
MR. KUDOU
APPROACH
ME IN THE
SAME WAY HE
APPROACHED
KUJIRAI B.

AGAIN.

YUP,
THAT'D BE
NUBEI. TRY
AGAIN.

HMM.
THAT'S
NUBEI.
TRY
AGAIN.

ANGRY?

DOES THAT
MEAN...I'M
SETTING MY
SIGHTS TOO
HIGH...?


HMMM...
NO, IT'S
NOT
THAT...

I AM!

KUJIRAI,
ARE YOU
TAKING THIS
SERIOUSLY?

THE
GODS
HAVE
BEEN
ANGRY
THIS
ENTIRE
TIME.

I DON'T
HAVE
ALL THE
TIME
IN THE
WORLD,
Y'KNOW




...BUT TRY
MAKING A WISH
FOR THE SAME
THING WITHOUT
CHANGING THE
RESULT.



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
IT IS YOU'RE
WISHING FOR,
KUJIRAI...

THE GODS
ARE SAYING,
"THAT WON'T
MAKE YOUR
WISH COME
TRUE."



AS IN, HOW
YOU WANT
THINGS TO
TURN OUT.

THE
RESULT
...?

SIGN: SHUNTAK SEAFOOD RESTAURANT



I DON'T
KNOW WHO
I AM OR
WHERE
I'M FROM
ANYMORE.

BUT
SOMETIMES
IT FEELS
AS IF I
DON'T EVEN
EXIST.



I WANT TO BE
LOVED BY MR.
KUDOU. I WANT
TO CATCH HIS
INTEREST...

HOW
I WANT
THINGS
TO TURN
OUT...?

TODAY, I DIDN'T
EVEN ASK MR.
KUDOU ABOUT
KUJIRAI E...

I WAS TOO
SCARED. I
COULDN'T
DO IT.

...BECAUSE
I FELT LIKE
IF I HEARD
IT, I REALLY
WOULD STOP
EXISTING.

...HAS TO
BE THIS
WAY.

ANY WISH
I WANT
GRANTED...

I SHOULDN'T
WISH, "MAY
MR. KUDOU..."
OR "LIKE
KUJIRAI B..."
OR ANYTHING
LIKE THAT.

SQUEEZE
FII
'4
7

OTHERWISE,
IT'LL NEVER
COME TRUE.



OH.
I SEE
NOW...



I DON'T
WANT
TO BE
SOMEONE
ELSE, LET
ALONE A
SOMEONE
ELSE IN
SOMEONE
ELSE'S
HEART.

I DON'T
WANT
TO BE
SOMEONE
ELSE, LET
ALONE A
SOMEONE
ELSE IN
SOMEONE
ELSE'S
HEART.



**SHENG-
BEI!**



CLATTER
th
777%
01

TRANSLATION NOTES

Kowloon Walled City in Hong Kong was once the most densely populated place on Earth with about 33,000 people living on 6.5 acres in interconnected high-rise towers. Because the area was originally a Chinese walled fort, it was legally a Chinese presence in British-run Hong Kong and later the subject of jurisdiction disputes, turning it into an unregulated oddity. In our world, it was eventually demolished in 1994 and turned into a public park.

Cantonese Chinese, the most common language in Hong Kong, can be romanized in several different ways—even the real Hong Kong ends up having a mix of different romanization styles. For this translation, many names and other proper nouns follow spellings that are established or commonplace, while others follow the Jyutping style of Cantonese romanization.

CONVERSION

The currency in Kowloon Walled City was the Hong Kong dollar (roughly HKD\$8 to 1 USD). The Hong Kong foot is slightly longer than the Imperial foot, at 1'2.625".

Page 31

Sai Jeong Tower means "West Sunlight Tower."

Page 53

Century egg, known as *pei daan* in Cantonese, is a type of preserved egg (usually duck). The result is something resembling a hard-boiled egg with an amber-colored "egg white" and a gray yolk. Century eggs are typically considered an acquired taste for those unfamiliar with them.

Page 87

Naam Caang Street means "South Orange Street."

Page 80

Hiyo's name likely comes from *hiyoko*, the Japanese word for chicks.

Page 87

Malay sponge cake (*malai gou*) is a sweet steamed sponge cake that was popularized in Malaysia, though its exact origins are murky.

Page 141

Weekly Bunka is a reference to *Weekly Bunshun*, an influential weekly Japanese magazine known for investigative journalism.

Page 146

The **hub** in "intestinal heart hub" means "center."

Page 149

Large-around-small sausage is a Taiwanese street food akin to a hot dog, where the sausage is pork-based and the "bun" is actually sticky rice. The name in Mandarin Chinese is *da chang bao xiao chang* (In Cantonese *dal cheong bao siu cheong*), which literally means "large intestine wrapped around small intestine." The word *chang* is used to describe long and thin foods; Here, both the sausage and the sticky rice are "intestines."

Page 165

In Cantonese, the character on the **green dragon tile** in mahjong is pronounced *faat* in Cantonese and *hatsu* in Japanese, and it means "get rich." It's also used to write Hajime's given name.

Page 188

Shuntak is a district (formerly a county) in Foshan, Guangdong, China. While officially known as Shunde in mainland China, "Shuntak" (an English spelling based on the Cantonese) is the commonly used spelling in Hong Kong.

Page 177

When Hollywood films are promoted in Japan, it is not uncommon to see them advertised along the lines of "the movie that brought all of America to tears."

EXTREME



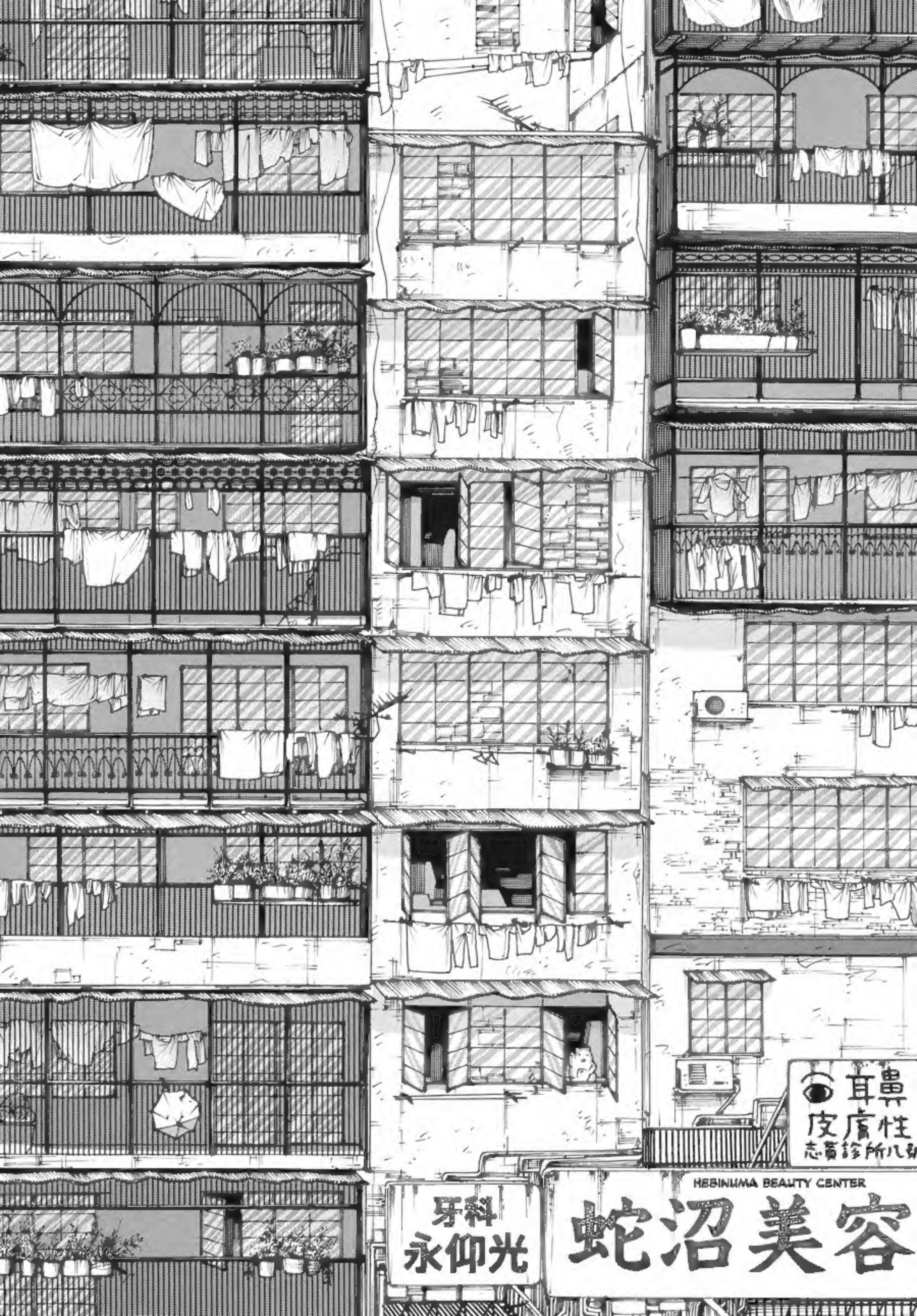
VOLUME 4 COMING SOON

A JUN MAYUZUKI FILM

I AM
MY
OWN
RIVAL
IN
LOVE.

THE
NOSTALGIC,
DYSTOPIAN
LOVE STORY
THAT
BROUGHT
ALL "ME'S"
TO TEARS,
COMING
SOON TO A
THEATER
NEAR YOU!

HOW+LOON
Generic Romance

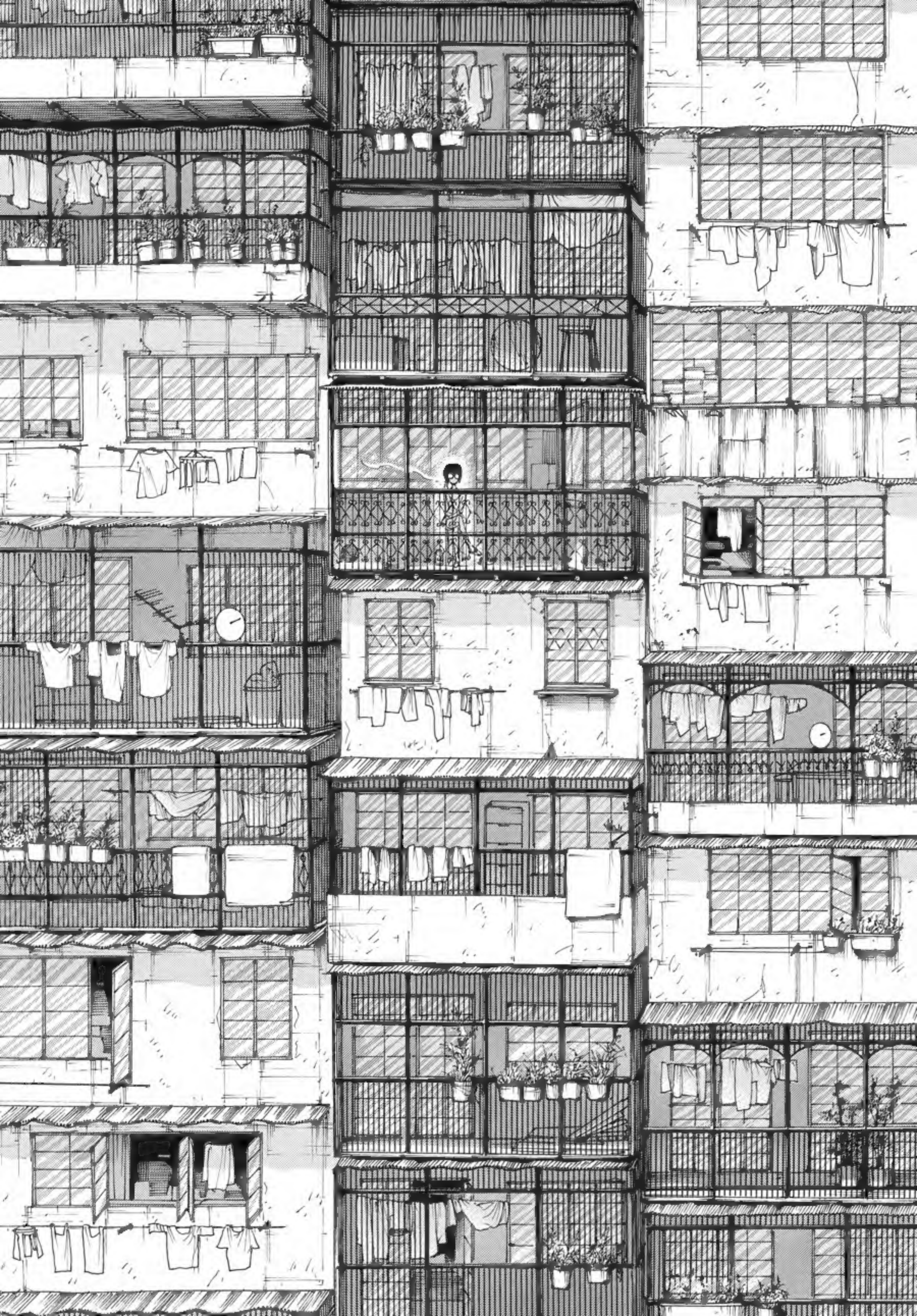


牙科
永仰光

蛇沼美容

耳鼻
皮膚性
志貴診所

HEBINUMA BEAUTY CENTER



KOWLOON

Generic Romance

3
JUN
MAYUZUKI

Translation: AMANDA HALEY
Lettering: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

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